

Aim (i) To ensure that the Council has appropriate resources, on an ongoing basis, to fund its statutory duties and appropriate discretionary services whilst continuing to keep Council Tax low.

Key Objective (i)(a) To ensure that the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy plans to meet the Council's financial and service requirements for any forward five year period, whilst minimising any reliance on Government funding.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Deliver identified savings	Management Board	31-Mar-17	On Target	Q1 (2016/17) - Printer Migration Project is being implemented. Transformation work-stream is reviewing further opportunities. Reports due in the autumn. Q2 (2016/17) - Transformation savings of £107,260 of which £70,960 are General Fund and £36,300 HRA.
2) Progress preparations for delivering savings for 2016/17	Management Board	31-Mar-17	On Target	Q1 (2016/17) - Not yet due - will be progressed as part of the 2017/18 budget process. Q2 (2016/17) - Not yet due - will be progressed as part of the 2017/18 budget process.
3) Develop additional business cases	Management Board	30-Sep-16	Under Control	Q1 (2016/17) Printer Migration Project is being implemented. Transformation work-stream is reviewing further opportunities. Reports due in the autumn. Q2 (2016/17) Savings identified for 2016/17 total £107,260, of which £70,960 are general fund and £36,300 are HRA. Savings identified for 2017/18 total £40,500, of which £34,800 are general fund and £5,700 are HRA. Further savings ideas to be considered by the Cabinet for 2017/18 are estimated to range from £480,900 to £533,200. Of this £451,300 to £502,800 are general fund and £29,600 to £30,400 are HRA.
4) Presentation of the Financial Issues Paper and MTFS update	Resources	31-Jul-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - The Financial Issues Paper will be presented to the Finance & Performance Management Cabinet Committee on 14 July.

5) Review the future options for the HRA Financial Plan and to sell "high value" empty Council properties	Communities	30-Nov-16		Pending	<p>(Q2 2016/17) - The Financial Issues Paper was presented to the Finance & Performance Management Cabinet Committee on 14 July and the recommendations have now been agreed by Cabinet.</p> <p>Q1 (2016/17) - Awaiting Government Guidance and Regulations on the sale of "higher value" empty Council properties. The Review cannot be effectively undertaken until the level of the required levy to be paid to the Government is known.</p> <p>Q2 (2016/17) - As Q1. However, some preliminary work on the resources available to the HRA for the Housebuilding Programme and levels of investment on the Council's housing stock have commenced, which will feed in to the review.</p>
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Key Objective (i)(b) To continue to review and develop the Council's own assets and landholdings for appropriate uses, in order to maximise revenue streams and capital receipts, and to deliver the following key projects:

- The Epping Forest Shopping Park, Loughton
- Council Housebuilding Programme
- St John's Redevelopment Scheme, Epping
- North Weald Airfield

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date		Status	Progress
1) Complete phase 1 of the Council House-buildings	Communities	30-Nov-16		Under Control	<p>Q1 (2016/17) Following the termination of the contract with the contractor for Phase 1, due to poor performance, negotiations are being held with another contractor to complete the works.</p> <p>Q2 (2016/17) Following a comprehensive assessment of the outstanding works, PA Finlay has now been selected to complete the works through a Completion Contract. The contract is currently in the process of being signed. It is expected that works will commence on site W/C 31st October 2016.</p>
2) Commence Phase 2 of the Council Housebuilding	Communities	30-Apr-16		Achieved	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The contract has been signed, the contractor has taken possession of the site and is due to commence works shortly.</p>

Programme					
					(Q2 2016/17) - Works have commenced.
3) Relocate the Housing Repairs Service from the Epping Depot to alternative suitable alternative premises	Communities	30-Apr-16	Pending		<p>(Q1 2016/17) - Planning permission has been received for the construction of a new Repairs and Maintenance Hub at Blenheim Way, North Weald, for which it will take around 18 months to procure and undertake the works. However, at the meeting of Cabinet in July 2016, it was agreed that no further work should be undertaken on the proposal until after the outcome of the Strategic Accommodation Review, due to be reported to Cabinet in October 2016.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - The outcome of the Strategic Accommodation Review was not able to be reported to the October meeting of the Cabinet, and is unlikely to be reported until early 2017.</p>
4) To facilitate, by the purchase of Essex County Council's interest and subsequent disposal to the preferred developer, the St John's Road redevelopment scheme.	Neighbourhoods	31-Oct-16	On Target		<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The final terms of the purchase of the County Council's interest and subsequent disposal to Frontier Estates have been agreed and are to be considered by the respective Cabinet Committees in July 2016. The agreement will be in principle subject to further confirmation from the Secretary of State with regard to State Aid Regulations.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - Following the receipt of the State Aid consent from the Secretary of State, the final drafting of the Legal Documentation for the District Council's purchase and subsequent sale to Frontier Estates at Essex County Council's interest in the site is nearing conclusion. Hope to practically complete by the end of October.</p>
5) Work in partnership with Moat Housing to commence the development of the Council garage site	Communities	30-Jun-16	None		<p>(Q1 2016/17) - A comprehensive Car Parking and Affordable Housing Plan for Vere Road, which includes consideration of the future of this site, is due to be considered by the Asset Management and Economic Development Cabinet Committee on 22nd August 2016.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) The Car Parking and Affordable Housing Plan was considered by the Cabinet Committee on 22nd August 2016. Cabinet subsequently approved the Plan, including the Cabinet Committee's recommendation that this site should not be developed for affordable housing, but to provide dedicated parking for the</p>

private residents of the Higgins development on the site of the former Sir Winston Churchill PH site. Therefore, this action is now closed

6) Evaluate the submissions received for North Weald Airfield marketing exercise
Neighbourhoods 30-Nov-16
Behind Schedule

(Q1 2016/17) - Submissions received in response to the expressions of interest have been assessed by the Asset Management Cabinet Committee. Specification for procurement of an operational partner under OEJU regulations has commenced.

(Q2 2016/17) - As Q1.

7) Progress the Epping Forest Shopping Park Scheme
Neighbourhoods 31-Oct-16
On Target

(Q1 2016/17) - Tenders have been received for the construction of the main Shopping Park, which further to final evaluation, will be recommended for approval at the Council's July Cabinet. Delays have been experienced with reaching agreement with Essex County Council on the final specifications and working methodology for the Highways Works. Whilst marketing is proceeding well, the Shopping Park is now not likely to open until Summer 2017.

(Q2 2016/17) - The main construction contractor McLaughlin and Harvey took possession of the site in mid-September. Good mobilisation and clearance works have been achieved. 41 week construction programme on target. Highways Contractor has commenced S278 works. Some delays in relation to the need to locate new attenuation tanks. Shopping Park still on target to open in August 2017.

8) Commence Phase 3 of the Council Housebuilding Programme to provide up to 35 new affordable rented homes in Epping
Communities 30-Jun-16
Under Control

(Q1 2016/17) - Tenders are due to be invited from contractors for a number of small construction contracts comprising Phase 3 in early August 2016.

(Q2 2016/17) Tenders have been invited on a phased basis for the 7 separate contracts comprising Phase 3 , with three tenders returned to date. The tenders will be reported to the Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee for approval.

9) Secure planning Phase 4 of the Council Housebuilding Programme to provide up to 50 new affordable rented
Communities 31-May-16
Under Control

(Q1 2016/17) - A number of developments comprising Phase 4 have received planning permission, but a number have also been refused. The Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee will consider the proposed approach to the delivery of Phase 4 once all planning applications have been determined.

homes in Loughton

10) Subject to the receipt of planning permission, secure the provision of the affordable rented homes at the Council-owned site at Pyrles Lane, Loughton

Communities

30-Jun-16



Under Control

(Q2 2016/17) - 10 planning applications have been approved; 2 applications were withdrawn following further discussions with planning officers; 2 applications were refused planning permission by the Area Plans Sub-Committee and 1 application (Vere Road, Loughton) was being held in abeyance pending the formulation of a Car Parking and Affordable Housing Plan, but is now being progressed following the adoption of a Plan.






(Q1 2016/17) - A report will be submitted to Cabinet shortly on the proposed marketing strategy for the sale of the Pyrles Lane nursery site, which will consider the Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee's recommendation that the completed affordable homes be purchased by the Council.

(Q2 2016/17) - The Director of Neighbourhoods intends to report on the Marketing Strategy to the November Cabinet meeting.

Key Objective (i)(c) To explore appropriate opportunities to make savings and increase income through the shared delivery of services with other organisations, where such arrangements would provide improved and/or more cost effective outcomes.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Liaise with the Communities Directorate on Housing related / led projects is constructive and productive to retain Building Control project work in-house	Governance	30-Apr-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - We continue to enjoy a constructive and responsive relationship between directorates and building income continues to exceed budget. (Q2 2016/17) - As above.
2) Include a clause as standard in new commercial leases, to require the use of the Building Control service	Neighbourhoods	30-Apr-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - Clause being prepared for inclusion in new commercial leases. (Q2 2016/2017) - Clause completed. Evidence of commissions being achieved.



3) Estates colleagues to include use of the in-house building control service in their standard negotiations	Governance	30-Apr-16	Under Control	(Q1 2016/17) - The directorates continue to liaise to embed the inclusion of the in house service in negotiations. (Q2 2016/17) – Progress has been made but we need to continue to embed this process.
4) Include as standard in the specification for new contracts to upgrade Council facilities, a requirement to use the in-house Building Control service.	Neighbourhoods Resources	30-Apr-16		On Target
5) For major development projects in which the Council has a sole or significant interest, ensure building regulations work is carried out by the in-house team	Neighbourhoods	30-Apr-16	Achieved	
6) Identify and undertake measures to raise the profile and successes of the in-house building control team.	Governance	30-Apr-16		Under Control
7) Participate in the renegotiations of the contracts for the provision of on-line library services	Governance	31-Mar-17	Achieved	
8) Explore the possible expansion of the insurance service provided to Uttlesford. District Council.	Resources	30-Sep-16		Achieved

9) Implement an integrated HR/Payroll IT system jointly with at least one other authority.	Resources	31-Mar-17		On Target	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - Implementation underway with Braintree & Colchester councils, with these sites going live first. The target for Epping to go live with the new system is December 2016.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - The implementation is proceeding in line with the timetable and the system is still expected to go live in December 2016.</p>
10) Evaluate possibility of shared service as part of Debt Working Party.	Resources	30-Sep-16		Under Control	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The Working Party continues to meet and reports back to Management Board on potential improvements and alterations to the processes of debt recovery.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - As per Q1.</p>
11) Provide HR/payroll services to at least one other authority	Resources	31-Mar-17		Pending	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The primary focus is currently the implementation of the new system - see item 9 above.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - As per Q1 - the system needs to be in place before we can offer it to others.</p>
12) Evaluate possibility of shared service as part of Scanning Working Party	Resources	30-Sep-16		Under Control	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The Working Party has been established with a project charter and meetings have taken place as part of the discovery phase.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - The discovery phase is continuing and changes have already been made to make several processes more efficient.</p>
13) Identify additional Council services that may benefit from a shared provision with other organisations	Management Board	31-Mar-17		On Target	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - Good progress made with audit. Opportunities being discussed with West Essex Chief Executives.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - Good progress made with audit. Opportunities being discussed with West Essex Chief Executives.</p>


Aim (ii) To ensure that the Council has a sound and approved Local Plan and commences its subsequent delivery

Key Objective (ii)(a) To produce a sound Local Plan, following consultation with local residents and working with neighbouring councils, that meets the needs of our communities whilst minimising the impact on the District's Green Belt.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Update the Council's Housing Strategy, following production of the Preferred Options for the Local Plan.	Communities	31-Dec-16	On Target	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - It has previously been agreed that work on updating the Council's Housing Strategy should not commence until the Draft Local Plan Preferred Approach has been published, which is currently expected to take place in October 2016, since the Housing Strategy is so dependent on the Local Plan proposals.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - On the assumption that consultation on the Draft Local Plan will commence on 31st October 2016, the Director of Communities is currently setting up an officer Project Team to formulate a draft Housing Strategy.</p>
2) To undertake Phase II of a comprehensive Green Belt Review as a key component of the local Plan evidence base.	Neighbourhoods	31-Jan-16	Achieved	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - Phase II of the Green Belt Review has been completed and now forms part of the evidence base in undertaking individual site assessment work.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - Draft Plan agreed for consultation to include Green Belt Assessment.</p> <p>(Note: this action was carried over from last year's plan and completed this year).</p>
3) Agree a Draft Local Plan and undertake the appropriate sustainability appraisal.	Neighbourhoods	31-May-16	Under Control	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - New Local Plan Development Scheme due to consideration at the July Cabinet Committee. Sustainability appraisals underway.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - Cabinet to consider draft Plan in October. Consultation period to run from the 31 October to the 12 December 2016. LDS timeframes still being achieved.</p>

4) Undertake all necessary consultations and negotiations under the Duty to Co-operate with Neighbouring Authorities	Neighbourhoods	31-Mar-17		On Target	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The work of the Co-operation for Sustainable Development Board is ongoing fulfilling the requirements of the Duty to Co-operation. Currently chaired by EFDC but due to transfer to East Herts in June. Intention is for the four authorities within the Strategic Housing Market Area to consult simultaneously in the Autumn.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/2017) - Work of the Duty to Co-operate Board ongoing. Two of three Memorandum of Understandings nearing signature. Uttlesford and Harlow consultation timescales have slipped by 2-3 months.</p>
5) Submit the Final Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination.	Neighbourhoods	31-Mar-17			Behind Schedule

Key Objective (ii)(b) To increase opportunities for sustainable economic development within the District, in order to increase local employment opportunities for residents.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date		Status	Progress
1) Continue with the Council's apprenticeship scheme for the district's young people, providing sustainable employment opportunities.	Resources	30-Sep-16		Under Control	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - The cohort recruited in 2015 continues to make good progress with their apprenticeships. A full intake will occur again in 2017. For 2016 the focus is on the recruitment of a new graduate trainee.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - Despite several attempts we were unable to recruit a new graduate trainee. The current apprentices continue to make good progress and preparations are underway to expand the programme to meet the requirements of the Apprenticeship Levy from April 2017.</p>

Key Objective (ii)(c) To deliver the Council's new Leisure and Cultural Strategy, in order to maximise participation and value for money in the provision of leisure and cultural services to local residents and visitors.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Undertake a Master-planning exercise for the provision of a proposed new swimming pool, new health centre and an independent living scheme	Communities Neighbourhoods	31-May-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - The Master Plan has been produced, published and formally endorsed by the Cabinet. (Q2 2016/17) - An Outline Planning Application has been submitted and is due to be determined by the District Development Management Committee in November 2016. Proposals have been received from the 3 Final Tenderers from the Leisure Management Contract.
2) Undertake a public consultation exercise on the Draft Masterplan for Hillhouse, Waltham Abbey.	Communities Neighbourhoods	30-April-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - The master-planning exercise (see 1 above) included consultation with all key stakeholders and the holding of a Community Planning Weekend, to which all residents, local businesses and other interested parties were invited. Feedback received from this consultation process informed the final Master Plan. (Q2 2016/17) - The feedback informed both the Master Plan and the subsequent Outline Planning Application due to be considered in November 2016.
3) Jointly pursue the provision of a new Secondary School on the Ongar Campus site	Neighbourhoods	30-Apr-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - Completed. (Q2 2016/17) - As above.
4) As part of the competitive dialogue procurement process for the new Leisure Management Contract, take forward the provision of a replacement swimming pool in Waltham Abbey	Neighbourhoods	30-Sep-16	Achieved	(Q1 2016/17) - Completed.
5) Subject to the receipt of funding from Arts Council	Communities	30-Jun-16	Under Control	(Q1 2016/17) - The outcome of the bid for funding from Arts Council England is awaited.

England, investigate the possible establishment of a Museum Heritage and Culture Development Trust



(Q2 2016/17) - The bid was successful and £270,000 funding has been awarded jointly to EFDC, Chelmsford CC and Broxbourne BC. The funding will be used to appoint a Commercial Manager for 18 months (to develop new income streams across Epping Forest, Broxbourne and Chelmsford Museums) and a Fundraising Manager to establish a Development Trust for Epping Forest District and Lowewood Museums, and a separate Trust for Chelmsford Museum. The Trusts will operate as Charities, based on companies limited by guarantee and will work in parallel to the Council's operation of the Museums, in order to raise funds and access funding pots which the Councils are unable to access.

Aim (iii) To ensure that the Council adopts a modern approach to the delivery of its services and that they are efficient, effective and fit for purpose.

Key Objective (iii)(a) To have efficient arrangements in place to enable customers to easily contact the Council, in a variety of convenient ways, and in most cases have their service needs met effectively on first contact.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Review the success of the increased opening hours and the increased delivery of Council services at the Council Office at the Limes Centre	Communities	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - The increased opening hours have been introduced, with the provision of increased Council services from the Council Office. A formal review of the success of this initiative is planned to be undertaken by the Communities Select Committee after 12 months' operation - in 2017 (Q2 2016/17) - As Q1.
2) Implement and/or produce an Implementation Plan for, the agreed proposals for improving customer contact.	Management Board	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - The customer contact project team continues to make good progress. A Head of Customer Service is due to be appointed shortly. (Q2 2016/17) - Head of Customer Services has been appointed and is due to start on 2 November. Implementation plan produced and implementation continues. A portfolio Holder decision on purchase of CMS software has been taken and now being actioned to allow prototyping work to be undertaken

through to March 2017. A draft specification for the reception work has been agreed with Facilities which now moves to initial design stage. A further period of monitoring of visitor patterns was undertaken in September. A Channel shift/process mapping day will take place in early November. New ICT analyst position now filled and started working on our online forms to transition them to the new CMS.

Key Objective (iii)(b) To utilise modern technology to enable Council officers and members to work more effectively, in order to provide enhanced services to customers and make Council services and information easier to access.

Action	Lead Directorates	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Achieve significant progress in the scanning of paper and microfiche Development Control files	Governance	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - The dedicated team continues to scan Planning files with a view to supporting flexible and remote working and reducing space requirements. (Q2 2016/17) – The team is up to speed and we continue to scan the files to support flexible working.
2) Scan Building Control paper and microfiche files to promote flexible working and reduce storage costs.	Governance	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - The dedicated team continues to scan building control with a view to supporting flexible and remote working and reducing space requirements. (Q2 2016/17) – as above.
3) Undertake document scanning projects in Legal Services and Development management to support the Transformation Programme.	Governance	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - We continue to scan legal documents and we are embarking on a program of creating electronic files for certain categories of legal work. Approximately 20% of the 2383 Council Deeds have been scanned and uploaded onto the Council's mapping system. Additionally a spreadsheet has been developed to organise approximately 6000 miscellaneous documents in preparation for scanning.

4) Continue the implementation of the Council's ICT Strategy, with the completion of the following key projects	Resources	31-Mar-17	On Target	(Q2 2016/17) - We had a slight delay with the scanning as a result of a member of staff leaving and recruitment of a replacement. The new officer is in the progress of being trained.
5) Free up computer suite 1 for re-use as office accommodation.	Resources	31-Mar-17		(Q1 2016/17) - Implementation continues and is on target. An update report was presented to the Resources Select Committee in April. (Q2 2016/17) - Good progress continues to be made and the capital bid for 2017/18 will be presented to Cabinet on 12 October. (Q1 2016/17) - On hold pending the accommodation review and is awaiting works to fully decommission. (Q2 2016/17) - The computer suite is free for alternative uses but will not be allocated or refurbished until the accommodation review has been completed.

Key Objective (iii)(c) To ensure that the Council understands the effects of an ageing population within the District and works with other agencies to make appropriate plans and arrangements to respond to these effects.

Action	Lead Directorate	Target Date	Status	Progress
1) Complete the multi-service study to identify and better understand the demographics of an ageing population in the District	Communities	30-Sep-16	On Target	(Q1 2016/17) - The study has been completed and the Study Report has been drafted. In the first instance, the Draft Study Report will be considered by the Council's Management Board, following which it will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration and discussion. (Q2 2016/17) - The Study has been completed. The findings will be reported to a Briefing Session for all members immediately before the Council meeting on 1st November 2016.
2) Commence the implementation of the action plan formulated as a result of the multi-service study	Communities	30-Sep-16		Under Control

<p>3) Review the delivery of housing support at the Council's sheltered housing schemes in the District.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>31-Jan-17</p>	<p>Pending</p>	<p>Plan is currently being formulated.</p> <p>(Q1 2016/17) - Initial ideas have been formulated on how housing support could be delivered at the Council's sheltered housing schemes in the future. However, this project is being held in abeyance, pending consideration by the Communities Select Committee and the Cabinet on the options for the future delivery of the Council's Careline Service.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - As Q1.</p>
<p>4) Review the Council's sheltered housing stock assets, with a view to rationalisation and modernisation through a strategic approach.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>30-Jun-16</p>	<p>Under Control</p>	<p>(Q1 2016/17) - A number of proposals have been formulated by a project team led by the Director of Communities. It is intended that an initial report on the approach to the review will be submitted to the Communities Select Committee in November 2016 for consideration.</p> <p>(Q2 2016/17) - As Q2 - but the report may be held over to the January 2017 meeting of the Select Committee, due to officer workload and the number of reports already due to be considered at the November meeting.</p>