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North East Derbyshire District Council

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN SURVEY CONSULTATION

July - August 2019

FINAL REPORT

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1 Introduction and Methodology

Background and Introduction

The Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019 has come to the end of its lifespan and so a new Plan must be developed.

The new draft Council Plan outlines our priorities for the District over the next four years, 2019 – 2023. The Plan is split into four main themes: Our Residents, Our Environment, Our services and Our Economy.

Each theme has a number of priorities the Council will focus on, to deliver the vision for the District – that North East Derbyshire is clean and attractive, a place where people are proud to live and work, a place where people will prosper and a place where people will feel safe, happy and healthy.

Before the Plan is considered for adoption, a formal consultation took place, commencing on 22nd July 2019 and running until 23rd August 2019. The consultation consisted of a short questionnaire (see Appendix C) which was available online or in paper versions (large print, braille, alternative language versions etc. were available on request).

The consultation was widely publicised to encourage all of our residents and organisations in the District to have their say. The following methods of publicising the consultation were used:

- The summer edition of The NEWS (circulated to all 45,000 homes within the District)
- Press release to local media
- Council websites and social media accounts
- Ask Derbyshire website
- Rykneld Homes website and social media
- Plasma screens in receptions at the Mill Lane Office and leisure centres
- Employee extranet site
- Posters in receptions in Mill Lane office, leisure centres, Rykneld Homes, within the offices at Mill Lane and on Parish and Town Council noticeboards. Paper copies were also available through these organisations
- Strategic Alliance Management Team
- Senior officers (workshop and individual contributions)
- Service Managers (Email and individual contributions)
- Members (Email and individual contributions)
- Parish and Town Councils (event and individual contributions)
- The North East Derbyshire Citizens' Panel (Mailed/emailed)
- Trade Union representatives
- Communications with Rykneld Homes
- Communications with partner organisations and stakeholders (Mailing, email and individual contributions).

Once published, reports, and questionnaires are available to view and download at the Council's consultation website www.askderbyshire.gov.uk.

Methodology

The consultation was open between 22nd July and 23rd August 2019. The survey was available to complete on-line, as well as via a paper questionnaire.

The questionnaire comprised of four agree/disagree questions after each of the sets of commitments that the Council intend to make in order to achieve the four aims. Respondents able to provide feedback on the proposals through the open response question. These comments are listed in Appendix B.

At the end of the consultation period a total of 219 replies had been received.

In the Executive Summary section of this report and the Data Tables in Appendix A, the base for each question is "valid responses" or all those providing an answer. All those who did not complete the question are excluded from the calculations. The base size does, therefore, vary from question to question, depending on the extent of non-response.

Where percentages do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding or multiple answers.

Profile of Respondents

The information in this section compares the profile of respondents to this survey with the District as a whole at the time of the 2011 Population Census. This helps indicate how representative the findings are and should be taken into consideration alongside the results.

	Respondents to Survey (CP May 2019)	Population Figures (2011 Census)
Respondent characteristic	%	%
Gender		
Male	47	49
Female	49	51
Prefer not to say	3	-
Prefer to self-describe	1	-
Age Group		
		(age % as a proportion of 2011 population aged 16+)
16 – 24 years	3	12
25 – 64 years	44	63
65 years and over	50	25
Prefer not to say	3	-
Ethnicity		
White British or Irish	95	97
Ethnic Minority (including white, other)	1	3
Prefer not to say	4	-
Disability		
Yes, limited a lot	9	11
Yes, limited a little	17	11
No	71	78
Prefer not to say	4	-
Sexuality		
Heterosexual	89	-
Gay	-	-
Lesbian	-	-
Bisexual	1	-
Prefer not to say	11	-

A series of 'demographic' questions were also asked to enable results to be analysed by key groups and to assess the level of engagement with the survey from different members of the community. The results of these questions showed that respondents were over representative of the age group 65 years and over, and are under representative of the younger age groups compared to the age profile of those aged 16+ in the District at the time of the 2011 population census.

2 Executive Summary

**For Aim One: Our Residents
Enhancing our residents' quality of life**

We are committed to:
 Providing a range of leisure facilities for our communities
 Engaging better with our communities
 Improving our housing
 Protecting the most vulnerable within our communities
 Helping communities address local issues and concerns

Q1 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our residents’ quality of life”?

The vast majority of respondents (85%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our residents’ quality of life”. Very few (5%) disagreed.

Aim One		
<i>Base: 210</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	70
Agree	52	110
Neither agree nor disagree	9	19
Disagree	3	7
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (2) or not answering (7)

There were relatively few open comments relating to Aim One and the majority of these related to housing in the District.

See Appendix B for a full listing of comments made.

**For Aim Two: Our Environment
Protecting and Promoting the character of our District**

We are committed to:

Protecting the character of our District by; undertaking a review of the Local Plan and the proposed sites within the Green Belt

Working with our communities to encourage the delivery of Neighbourhood Plans

Enhancing planning enforcement activity to address environmental crime.

Tackling climate change by; developing and delivering a climate change and carbon reduction strategy

Continuously reviewing our operations and facilities to meet our carbon reduction pledge

Working with residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint

Embedding a culture of 'green thinking' amongst staff, residents and businesses

Ensuring a clean, green environment by; enhancing litter enforcement

Implementing litter picks and Love Where You live initiative

Adopting a preventative approach to tackling environmental crime

Tackling fly tipping

Enhancing the natural environment by; enhancing biodiversity

Supporting new habitats and wildlife corridors

Carefully managing our open spaces to promote our vital plants and pollinators

Working with/inspiring our schools and community groups to protect and support our native wildlife.

Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”?

Almost one in eight respondents (79%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”. A small proportion (10%) disagreed.

Aim Two		
<i>Base: 215</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	72
Agree	46	99
Neither agree nor disagree	10	22
Disagree	7	16
Strongly disagree	3	6

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (2) or not answering (2)

The environment generally and climate change specifically drew many comments from respondents, ranging from fly-tipping in the District, to renewable energy and development of the Green Belt. A full list of comments can be found in Appendix B.

For Aim Three: Our Services

Delivering high quality cost-effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff.

We are committed to:

Transforming how our Council works by; working with staff to redesign services, encourage innovation, involvement and ownership

Freezing our part of the Council Tax for 2020/21 and improve value for money

Undertake a line-by-line budget review to ensure that the Council spends every penny wisely.

Creating a safe District in which to live and work by; tackling anti-social behaviour within our communities

Developing a car parking enforcement strategy, reviewing parking outside schools as a priority

Working with partners to lead a review of the District's Community Safety

Partnership arrangements, including services to tackle domestic abuse

Reviewing enforcement and maximising the use of tools and powers

Being a listening Council by; ensuring consultations are fair, open and accessible and that the Council engages with residents

Reviewing the Council's petition scheme and provide other ways for residents to become involved in the work of the Council

Providing high quality street scene by; ensuring timely and efficient collection of waste and recycling

Promoting recycling

Ensuring effective street cleansing

Providing an effective and user-friendly planning service and ensuring effective planning enforcement.

Q3 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff"?

The majority of respondents (78%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of "Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff". A small proportion (7%) disagreed.

Aim Three		
<i>Base: 215</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	36	77
Agree	42	90
Neither agree nor disagree	15	33
Disagree	5	11
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating "don't know" (2) or not answering (2)

There were a small number of comments made relating to Aim Three.

For Aim four: Our Economy

Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs

We are committed to:

- Supporting businesses to maximise their potential
- Creating a business friendly district
- Ensure a supply of high quality business premises
- Support businesses with grant applications and advice.
- Attracting and retaining skilled jobs within the District
- Creating university and higher education links
- Facilitating job fairs and developing apprenticeships
- Developing and promoting a visitor economy across the District by; developing a tourism strategy
- Promoting heritage sites
- Encouraging day-trippers and overnight stays
- Implementing a revised District Growth strategy by; focussing on innovation and technology
- Maximise the benefits of current developments
- Developing a commercial investment strategy
- Town centre regeneration by supporting the One Public Estate agenda and working with partners for maximum benefit
- Proactively seeking out funding opportunities to improve our town centres and high streets.

Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”?

The majority of respondents (78%) agreed that these commitments would help the Council to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”. Very few (5%) disagreed.

Aim Four		
<i>Base: 210</i>	%	Number
Strongly agree	29	60
Agree	49	102
Neither agree nor disagree	18	17
Disagree	4	8
Strongly disagree	1	3

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “don’t know” (6) or not answering (3)

Town centre regeneration was one of the most popular topics for comments made relating to Aim Four. There were also comments relating to encouraging businesses in the area and anti-social behaviour. For a full list of comments made see Appendix B.

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There were a small number of additional comments made which related to topics not already highlighted in the draft Council Plan. These covered a variety of issues and are listed in full in Appendix B.

Appendix A Data Tables

Q1 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Enhancing our resident’ quality of life”?

<i>Base: 210</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	70
Agree	52	110
Neither	9	19
Disagree	3	7
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (7).

Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Protecting and promoting the character of our District”?

<i>Base: 215</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	33	72
Agree	46	99
Neither	10	22
Disagree	7	16
Strongly disagree	3	6

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (2).

Q3 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff”?

<i>Base: 215</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	36	77
Agree	42	90
Neither	15	33
Disagree	5	11
Strongly disagree	2	4

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (2) or not answering (2).

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Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of “Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs”?

<i>Base: 210</i>		
	%	Number
Strongly agree	29	60
Agree	49	102
Neither	18	17
Disagree	4	8
Strongly disagree	1	3

*Excluded from the calculations are those stating “Don’t know” (6) or not answering (3).

Appendix B

Open Comments

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?
Aim One: Our Residents
Under 'Our Residents' the commitments in "Improving our housing" does not include or address the need to provide sufficient housing (social or private) for residents, nor to support the aims of growing the local economy and attracting and retaining skilled jobs.
Very high targets to achieve. Consultation and connectivity with Parish Councils is of paramount importance as they are the eyes and ears of the local population.
Offer current & ex-military veterans corporate rates at the Sports centres.
In terms of 'Our residents/improving our housing' the aim should be to 'improve existing housing & delivering new homes' as there is a high demand for housing in the area and the Council wants to 'attract skilled jobs'. There should also be an emphasis on providing affordable homes and social rent housing.
I cannot believe the amount of houses being built, but what about facilities to cope with the influx e.g. GP surgeries it's nigh on impossible to get an appointment now.
Promoting home ownership is an unobtainable dream for many. Why not promote social housing and a well-regulated private sector?
Aim Two: Our Environment
I would like to see more prominence to the biggest existential threat which is climate change. By searching the council website I see that a climate change emergency has been declared and there is a commitment to an 80% carbon reduction by 2030. I would like to see more prominence in the plan and on the website to ensure awareness of the issue is maintained with our citizens. Also should we not be even more ambitious and aim to be carbon neutral as a Council by 2030?
I'd also question the fact that some aims may contradict others i.e. how can you encourage tourism and day drippers but improve the environment? I'd be keen to see the council leading by example when it comes to carbon footprint, recycling etc. What percentage of waste is recycled in the offices compared to that going to landfill (for example)?
The commitment 'Enhance planning enforcement activity to address environmental crime' should have 'environmental protection' instead of 'planning enforcement'. Planning Policy and management can improve character but is limited in how it can address environmental crime; the work is less a planning enforcement responsibility than environmental health. An additional commitment could be 'Develop design codes to enhance the character of development and reduce environmental impact.' Under

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

Our Environment there is insufficient mention of renewable energy provision. There should be a commitment to providing for renewable energy delivery through planning policies, enhancement of council properties and support for businesses and residents to produce renewable energy.

When are you going to stop avaricious developers and farmers alike exploiting loopholes in the system to build houses on green belt that will be lost forever? Disgraceful, when there are plenty of brownfield sites available in the district.

Totally dissatisfied with further delays to the new Local Plan. Councillors are ignoring central government policy by denying new homes in the northern part of the district to those people who want to trade upwards without moving away. New Councillors are acting on purely political and selfish NIMBY grounds in attempting to frustrate ALL development, even for sites fully meeting planning policy as confirmed by the Planning Inspectorate. In particular, Killamarsh RAGE members are lobbyists against ALL development. They represent a tiny minority amongst the 10,000 people of Killamarsh town. Many there support, albeit less vocally, the need for new homes for they can see that expansion will bring prosperity and growth to a place where historically town centre decay and stagnation have prevailed. No new houses means no new services, i.e. buses, shops etc. Whether Derbyshire people like it or not Killamarsh is physically next door to South Yorkshire. It effectively functions as a suburb of Sheffield but fails to receive the services e.g. buses, trams and amenities that those living "over the border" enjoy. There is still too much parochialism which is stopping the town moving forward in the 21st century, a time when people are mobile and no longer are born, live, work and die in the same "village".

Environmental commitments are good to hear however, do not go far enough. The council has not committed to becoming carbon neutral and has refused to accept a climate emergency motion. Serious action is needed.

I am concerned about the green belt and proposals to build in green belt land in Dronfield - how is that protecting the green belt In addition to promote businesses look at attracting shops other than charity shops into our towns There also is a need for activities/specific locations for teenagers to meet.

Be more proactive in prosecuting Fly Tippers, people dropping litter, dog / cat dirt. Hasten the opening of the Cafe in the Dronfield Sports Centre (nothing seems to be happening).

With regards to 'Our Environment'/Protect the character of our District' the Council should consider to adopt the draft Local Plan as soon as possible. This would be the best way to ensure that the environment is protected. 'To tackle climate change' the Council should act as a model and investing in its assets, for example the Mill Lane building should be insulated properly and it should have photovoltaic/solar panels on the roof.

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

Re the environment, the performance criterion "undertake a review of the green belt" does not go any way to achieving the aim of protecting and promoting the character of the district - in saying that there will be a review of the greenbelt, it does not say that building homes on greenbelt will not happen.

You say you will review the local plan and proposed sites, but this is just your way of saying you'll look into, blame the previous administration and still go ahead with them, all the time blaming the previous administration. To be honest it's getting boring blaming other people. Get on with the job. If you really want to listen to the communities then get them to vote on proposed developments. Because putting in over 100 objections doesn't seem to be doing the trick. Your recent the NEWS boasts about climate change but you don't state what in percentage your aim is. Should you not be going for 100%? Perhaps you don't think you can achieve that?? Theme 7 talks about parks and open spaces but yet these spaces you want to build houses, which in turn brings more cars and more pollution for a change why doesn't this administration work with the other parties and put the people of North East Derbyshire first and not your ego!

How do you reconcile these aims against the proposal to drill for shale gas in Marsh Lane? How will fracking assist a carbon reduction strategy? You plan to enhance planning enforcement to address environmental crime. Drilling for gas next to homes and near to a primary school is an environmental crime! The detrimental effect of fracking on the health of people who live in close proximity is well documented. How will fracking promote vital plants and pollinators? How will fracking promote a visitor economy? I would really like you to reply to my concerns. I can tell you that mine and my family's quality of life has not been enhanced for the last nearly three years while this threat has been hanging over us! You may say that Ineos are not fracking yet but they are not likely to spend millions of pounds turning our lovely countryside into a gas field if they are not determined to frack.

Aim Two: Our Environment. The review of the Local Plan and the proposed sites within the Green Belt MUST ensure protection is given to village and rural areas where there has been over development of housing etc. just to reach targets in the past. Neighbourhood plans, once passed, MUST be followed to prevent the planning mistakes of the past to protect our villages.

It'll be interesting to see if any of them come to fruition. Stop building on green land is a must.

It's fine. Could we not consider planting some trees to replace the ones chopped down to allow for the building of so many houses?

In my village we have only just voted for a local plan to protect our green belt. Even so houses (none are affordable home!) are being built at a startling rate. We are in great danger of becoming a suburb of Chesterfield. There will be no wildlife corridors!

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

Litter, litter picks are not the answer. Prevention is the answer. There are many technical solutions to fly-tipping with battery CCTV cameras available etc. etc. Signs and an advertising campaign to stop drivers throwing litter from cars needs to be addressed. It seems to be the single biggest problem in the area where I live in Marsh Lane. The council could help by not cutting verges until litter is cleared as all they are doing is chopping it up into pieces and then it is being spread far and wide! Constantly cutting grass verges until you are practically digging them up!!! the new thoughts on leaving them to grow where you can or replacing them with wild flowers is an absolute necessity for councils taking their environment seriously. Can you not have a team that monitors grass cutting, wild flower planting, going into schools talking about looking after the environment, working on projects to display this on school fences gates etc? Schools should be used to their maximum to get the message through to young people and families about how to care for their own areas. I know there is a recycling litter officer that goes into schools but could this role not be expanded to educate children on more than this?

How environmentally friendly is the use of white part gloss paper, colour printing and white text on black panels used on the included Council Plan and on this questionnaire (any printed items, receive from government departments is on greenish white matt paper, without any colour and just black text).

I would like to say in my part of Walton the maintenance of grass verges has become a worry. Excessive use of weed-killer leaving 15"/18" strip of grass only leaving unsightly burnt, dry strips on each side i.e. verge and paths. Additionally the use of a potent and possible carcinogenic weed-killer which is a worry to dog owners. Cutting the verges without weed killer would not only save money but would be a step for NEDDC towards the environment!

Please, please ban any more house building in the Wingerworth/Tuption area, as Derby Road cannot take any more traffic. There is going to be major queues leading to impatient drivers, pollution in air and accidents. Don't get me started on sewers, schools, doctors etc.!!!

Ensure all new homes are low energy i.e. solar panel roofs, water recapture for toilets. All building insulated. This should be a must in all public buildings and a strong aim in refurbished and new housing stock.

A stronger emphasis on clean and energy proficient - i.e. all new houses (of which we have a proliferation) to be fitted with solar provision, starting with social housing. Local buses to electrified or hydrogen to gain grants. Extra rates for those who park on road and do not use drives or garages.

Aim 1: Environment: Frith Woods is in dire need of attention to a) maintenance b) footpaths c) nettles Aim 2: Quality of Life: Extreme concern/worry to residents. a) Fighting extreme arrogance of some councillors (some now defunct) b) planning staff (higher levels) egotism. These staff should re-apply for jobs and explain to local ratepayers.

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

There needs to be a strong and urgent emphasis on dealing with climate change in the district. There is insufficient electric vehicle charging points, many fields of ecological value are being converted into housing estates unnecessarily.

Stop building housing developments. Overloading infrastructure and stretching services.

As highlighted under 'Environment', those aims cannot be achieved by continually allowing building on green-field sites. This contributes to the destruction of wildlife habitat etc. Also the high volume of building on the A61 Chesterfield/Clay Cross corridor will cause additional pollution.

Your aims are commendable, but in the south of the district we urgently need the local plan in place to help prevent further house-building on green field sites. We worry about traffic congestion and lack of local services getting even worse.

I would like to see more consideration by the council when considering Gypsy and Traveller sites within our area. That they do not cause harm or detract from the character and appearance of areas that have been suggested for new development and those suggested for increase pitches on existing sites. To consider the settled existing communities, how it will impact on the quality of their daily lives, how it will impact on the existing infrastructure such as roads/lanes and character and appearance of the existing surrounding. Not have business use on sites which are close to residential houses. I would also like to see that the Council monitors those privately owned sites on a regular basis, unlike Council owned sites they do not have a Site Manager and therefore abuse planning laws and/or any conditions placed those sites when planning was originally granted. I believe more should be done to encourage EVERYONE to recycle in a proper manner, Councils nationally should have the same recycling procedures, so there is less confusion what to and what cannot be recycled. Put more pressure on supermarkets and local businesses to do their bit.

It is very important to me that the council acknowledges the climate crisis and puts this at the heart of every decision made. Some areas for improvement - sustainable housing, more effective recycling, reducing plastic waste and consumption reducing food waste and the homeless.

Make every effort to enhance our environment.

In my opinion NEDDC puts obstacles in residents' way. Having read the Council Plan 2019-2023, I was interested in setting up a group to form a local plan. However, the hoops one would have to jump through, the time and cost (involving professionals) ensures no one could do this!

Listen to the people and act on what they say. Green thinking is expensive and with businesses on the verge of bankruptcy waive these rules to help them. Use brownfield sites to build on NOT fields.

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

Reviewing the Local Plan and green belt usually results in removing green grass areas from the green belt. This will not improve areas! The green belt should be expanded not reduced.

We must strongly protect the Green Belt and prevent building wherever possible. We must strongly fight fracking proposals.

I am writing with regard mainly to the Nature aspect of Derbyshire councils proposed plan. I notice in many areas that the plan includes managing the open spaces for plants and pollinators, supporting habitats and wildlife corridors. My first complaint is that wildlife corridors are not up to much as a corridor means that whatever lives there has to cross roads etc. to get to another corridor (Many animals especially our hedgehogs are lost here). How can you be protecting nature when further on it is stated that you will review the local plan and proposed sites within the green belt. That to my mind means further development in green belt areas such as just off the A615 at Wessington and the massive development off the B5035 on Roe's lane Crich as just two examples. Is it a case of where there's money the green belt isn't? This cannot be stated as houses of necessity, as they will run into many hundreds of thousands and be out of the reach of people who live there already; as an example the price of housing in Ashover developed rapidly when people moved into the area from commuter lands e.g. London, Birmingham etc. This priced it out of reach of those trying to get on the ladder who actually lived there. Consultations are actually pointless as (If you will notice my earlier remark) money talks and the developments at Wingerworth are an example. Voted out by the locals and even yourselves, but voted in by a Government lackey. What if we try to promote feelings of care in the people of Derbyshire N.E. to try things such as planting wildflower areas in their own gardens and also for the council to actually plant them and not cut the verges so harshly? If you want to get money, put up the taxes on those who dig up their gardens to plant concrete for the proverbial car and piles of rubbish (I live in Danesmoor and used to live on the council estate, so have seen it all). The garden can and does act as a sponge in rainy weather, but cannot do so when there is no garden! Flooding. Can we not allow set aside for farmers to plant wild flowers etc? Anyway, moan over. You are doing a good job, but mainly for people. Let's try nature for a change and see how Derbyshire can be the flower and nature county of Britain.

Aim Three: Our Services

Frontline Services must be kept under public control.

Working cross border to attract customers to facilities by offering an 'open' pricing scheme rather than a closed boundary pricing scheme. This would increase participation, increase income and further enhance tackling obesity, giving NEDDC more finance to invest in its services. Authority to authority e.g. NEDDC/Sheffield CC.

Don't waste council money by tendering work out to private companies so that our money ends up in some businesses profits. Keep all work in house.

The aims are splendid but your history of sensitive planning is flawed - for example the plans for a very large development - leasehold moreover - in the middle of Ashover.

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

This raises doubts about the sincerity of your aims. Ashover has suffered from much insensitive development and there are regrettably few well planned houses of the last 50 years.

You will need to concentrate on your own budgets. Having worked for a local authority you sickness levels will be high. These should be managed realistically. Long term sick is a massive problem in local authorities compared to the private sector. Being off sick when you do not need to be is theft of tax-payers money and should be looked upon much more seriously than it is. This is money that is so needed elsewhere especially in social care.

It is unclear what “developing a car parking enforcement strategy” means, it sounds like penalising motorists without providing a viable public transport alternative or encouraging retail businesses into areas which do not require car use to access.

I sincerely hope you don't have wide ranging cuts to services such as libraries; dog waste bins etc. but use these services such as libraries as a vital part of improving the health of communities. I hope you don't just cut cars going into city centre or the clean air act, people and businesses still need to breathe to access these areas so how will you keep and improve this part of Derbyshire. I hope you don't allow fracking with all the polluting this business brings. I hope these changes will be looked at with a forward approach and not just implement changes and cuts.

Freezing the Council Tax may not be the best way to deliver high quality cost-effective services.

Whilst the aims are commendable, none of them will be achieved unless you address anti sociable behaviour as a priority. The aims will be pointless as no-one will want to live in the area. More and more residents are afraid to use public spaces. We need more police officers on the streets and other anti-deterrents. More, well run, supervised, cost effective activities to keep youngsters and potential "trouble makers" off the streets.

Re: car parking enforcement - we need more places to park and no further paying to park places. Local shops need free parking to enhance business. Encourage local groups to weed streets and kerbs.

Car Parking enforcement – people do not adhere to yellow line restrictions, because they know there is little chance of them being ‘ticketed’.

We have read through the draft plan and noticed that one of the points on there is to do with a parking enforcement strategy. The on and off street parking enforcement are managed by Derbyshire County Council; on-street is theirs to manage (e.g. around schools), off street is managed by them on North East Derbyshire District Council’s behalf. NEDDC are not able to take control of on-street enforcement.

Aim Four: Our Economy

Dronfield Civic Centre hopefully is still part of the 'Town Centre Regeneration' planned by the Council. I would like to see small artisan business units i.e. Fresh bread, cheeses, fresh coffee shops etc. Places where people can meet for a cuppa and a chat

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

in a safe and clean environment. I would also like to see public transport improved in order that Hilltop, Dronfield residents have the option of using public transport.

Dronfield is meant to be the 9th best place in the country to live, currently we have roads that are beyond repair and life threatening to cyclists. Graffiti artists intent on disfiguring our town. Empty shops in Dronfield centre that have been like this for in excess of 3 years. Motorcyclists on the bypass who don't think the rules apply to them - sound and speed pollution - the Police when challenged did nothing about this. It's not helpful to present commitments we need to know how you intend to achieve these words on paper and see results. Town regeneration required in Dronfield to attract businesses to the centre. Need to see action on street cleaning, cutting back around road signs - weeds under control. Management of the trees on public areas that restrict light and access.

Would like to see more work on 'One Public Estate' with sharing of assets by partners, businesses etc. to enable efficiencies - the new Police/Fire HQ is an excellent example at Ripley. The Civic Centre in Dronfield looks great but is landscaped by the District and Town Council. Efficiencies could be made by having one agency looking after it. Also the District Council use a lot of perennial plants in their planting which are thrown away after a year which is wasteful.

Sounds great on paper hopefully we will see some evidence that you are delivering on these aims. It is to be hoped this includes a new build leisure centre in Clay Cross, as promised, and a strategy to tackle the A61 corridor congestion as the new house building schemes add to the existing problem.

Town centre regeneration must mean fewer shops. Planning permission needs to be given for "change of use". Without this the High Street will continue to look stale and outdated.

I live in Killamarsh and seem to be a forgotten village being at the top tip of the county. Look how much is said in the local newsletters now and in the past about Killamarsh? I will be asking our local councillors this question as I have for many years. Plans are very good if carried out. Why not be able to put name etc. not anonymous!

Please ensure Town Centre regeneration goes ahead in all parts of the district.

Aim 4: Dronfield Civic Centre = new businesses required. Today charity shops (cheap rates), rubbish spilling out on pavement

The constraints on business development and growth are: business rates, slow and restrictive planning decisions.

On the 'Our Economy' page, in the skill section I have the following comments/suggested amends: I would add 'attract and retain skilled jobs within our friendly rural district, including raise awareness of higher level apprenticeships Create university and education links with businesses Facilitate job fairs and support residents into employment. There is a recognition that careers advice should start earlier on in young people's lives and work is now taking place via the local authorities with schools

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

within Derbyshire to support this by more intensive employer engagement and meaningful encounters. This is done in a variety of ways. Education can include HE so colleges would also benefit from this. I am unsure how it is intended that apprenticeships are 'developed' which is the original wording. Is this introducing new apprenticeships or increasing the numbers of apprenticeships. If new apprenticeships are being introduced then the council can support these but they are led by business sector groups working with HE/FE and accreditation providers. What we can do however is continue to raise the awareness of the advantages of apprenticeships, at all levels. As we support residents into employment, then if we include the above wording, this supports the work that we do via the Working Communities Project and other partnership work as opportunities arise. This would fit nicely with the facilitation of job fairs.

Encourage businesses to come to the area by discounting business rates for a 1-5 year period.

I would like more monies available spent on Eckington Town centre to regenerate foot fall instead of Clay cross and Dronfield for a change. Get fed up of seeing nail salons and Northgate house is in a terrible unsafe state. 99% of this is due to the owner and pressure should be put on him to get the place in order or Pull it down all together. This is the main reason New business are not attracted to the town centre. You should try and work together with the Town Team who are doing all we can.

Business rates are still a big issue that hasn't been sorted by the government and deters business growth everywhere. I'm not seeing enough input into town centre regeneration in the plan.

Provide support to fledgling independent local businesses with 1-2 employees (start-ups) - especially focusing on online businesses to future-proof our area and keep relevant. The high street is fading and more people are doing their business online, therefore local businesses need to be where the customers are going.

Services Provided by Other Councils

Needs to be more focus around the importance of Leisure and the contribution it plays in communities; reduced anti-social behaviour, educational opportunities, reducing social isolation, working on making the in-active active, childhood obesity issues and supporting under-represented groups.

Our Environment - As a volunteer Access and Bridleway Officer for the British Horse Society in North Derbyshire, I am involved in working with DCC Rights of Way officers and various bridleway groups to improve the provision of multi-user paths for all vulnerable users. Much work is being done but I have pin pointed gaps in the network where vital links could be made. These links would help promote sustainable transport

<p>Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?</p>
<p>by avoiding busy roads as well as providing wildlife corridors. I would welcome a meeting with Council officers to discuss my proposals.</p>
<p>Path cycling is worse. Need a pathway, too much traffic in road. Walking down to the village. Car is parked on pavement. Walking in the road!! Cycling had money to the Council and is worst in road.</p>
<p>Aim 3: Parking control especially Oakdell/Coal Aston where cars or caravans parked on road/pavements</p>
<p>More attention needs to be paid to (1) Adequate, effective & caring Policing & Crime Prevention/Reduction (2) Stop dimming street lights - you are already saving money on running costs & should not be putting residents in danger of crime/burglaries etc. as well by dimming the lights. Residents no longer feel like we are living in a safe & caring environment (3) Speeding motorists & mobile phone use by drivers is a big problem which needs addressing & policing (4) anti-social behaviour of undisciplined children/poor parenting needs addressing Modern life is not just about being seen to be "Green" & saving money. Real quality of life needs Community Spirit, Law Enforcement & promotion of a safe/caring environment which includes all the items listed above.</p>
<p>The draft council plan reads very well and would seem to address most issues. However, I note that there is no specific mention of ensuring that there would be sufficient schools, public transport and health provision to support any increase in housing resulting in an increase in population.</p>
<p>Issues not currently included</p>
<p>An effort should be made on enforcing dog owners to keep their dogs on a lead whilst on ALL public roads!</p>
<p>When securing the Greenbelt, the Council need to increase affordable housing and new social rented accommodation on brownfield sites.</p>
<p>When purchasing goods and plant and machinery and services, we use ONLY local suppliers.</p>
<p>I feel more should be done for the elderly and more sheltered housing etc.</p>
<p>Lots of information in the Plan about what the Council would like to do but nothing in there to say how and by when. I think the plan has to take into account the voice of local people when it comes to planning/developing new housing. Ensure that developers include social housing in their building plans.</p>
<p>There is no mention of digital inclusion i.e. improving services or quality of life by making services more easily accessible. Access to Council services online? Better broadband connectivity for residents? The aims and objectives are good but don't go far enough and are a little 'dated'.</p>

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?
Needs to be more focus around the importance of Leisure and the contribution it plays in communities; reduced anti-social behaviour, educational opportunities, reducing social isolation, working on making the in-active active, childhood obesity issues and supporting under-represented groups.
The Council Could be active in seeking to establish local groups to be active in maintaining gardens, paths etc. in their own immediate area.
Better 'park' and 'play areas' for children and young people
Other
No thanks.
No
It all sounds very good in theory, but.....
None
I've answered neither agree nor disagree to each of these questions as, at present, the aims are just that, aims. I have no way of telling how your commitments will be put into action.
Talk is cheap but it's actions that tell the real story - small actions like the recent clampdown on "A boards" in Coal Aston which highlighted the shops in Barnard Avenue to passing drivers show that the "jobsworth" mentality still takes precedence over common sense (the "A boards" in question were on the wide grass verge and, therefore, not obstructing anyone) and that support for local shops and small businesses is more of a slogan than a real priority what about pavement parking? Mothers with prams/pushchairs and those in mobility scooters or wheelchairs are often forced into the road by inconsiderate parking but enforcement by the council is non-existent what about home-owners hedges and shrubs overgrowing the footpaths and reducing their usable width - again enforcement is non-existent. Public toilets? A thing of the past yet people still have the same needs.
It is easy to state aims and commitments but carrying them out is has to be seen to be believed.
This question would have been better put after each of the four sections, instead of at the end! I now have to trawl back into the document to look at the specifics. Re engaging with residents - use by councillors of social media is poor. Few have an individual Facebook page/twitter account in their capacities as cllrs. Those who do seem to enjoy a closer relationship with the residents in the area they represent - especially important as NED is a rural area, therefore residents are scattered over a wide area and/or due to work commitments are likely to find social media a useful tool by which to contact their councillor, or to discover what work their councillor is engaged in. Noting that our MP, Lee Rowley, and many councillors in neighbouring councils use social media to very good effect, I wonder why NED cllrs are not doing the same - a

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missed opportunity, I feel, and gives the impression that NED is a little behind the times.

I admire the aims and commitments but all I see on this questionnaire are statements. Not really any plans of how to do these things and in what time frame! Child obesity great aim but how? In our village our parks are a glass covered mess and child's pool and exercise Gym none existent. Crack down on waste and carbon footprint great but how? The biggest problem is horse poop all over pavements. How can that be contained? Protecting the vulnerable. Great but from what? Predators? Loneliness? Isolation? There needs to be more action plan than aims. These are just a few examples.

Completely agree with Council proposals.

All of the proposals look good on paper. It's putting them into practice that counts. So hopefully the goal posts don't move and everything gets done.

Fully support the Council in its aims to better the area for the people in the locality and around. To keep the people safe in care and assist were possible within its means.

These commitments are sensible, but are too generic; they would be equally valid for any council in the UK. To be meaningful they have to be more specific, and it has to be possible to measure the extent to which they have been achieved.

I think it is very good and covers all the main areas you need to sustain a quality environment for people.

Buzz words and phrases throughout all 4 aims are ridiculous "performance indicators being reviewed by scrutiny committees" is just (redacted) jargon for people sitting around putting out more (redacted) jargon to justify their existence and pay packets. Half of this glossy pamphlet is just smoke and mirrors. For God's sake ditch the spin and just speak English. Not impressed.

Enhancing the natural environment. Since 1965 I have lived next to a parish councillor who encourages the use of guns on his land. My carers and I still hear loud shots. Regrettably these activities are legal. It took me years to stop guns being carried on my drive.

Ideas are one thing!! Commitment is all about doing and enforcing - but not with "too heavy" a hand. Residents must feel with you or they will be dis-interested.

Inspiring rhetoric - we can only hope? Town centre Alfreton - the whole place is a microcosm of British low life! The A61 to Alfreton is always 'overgrown'. The cross roads at the traffic lights are a disgrace of broken down imagery. All very embarrassing!

As the draft plan is a strategic document I can't comment in a more meaningful way. I've seen a lot of such documents in my work. They all look similar and are full of good intentions. What people need to know is HOW you intend to achieve these worthy aims

<p>Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?</p>
<p>and any impact on services and council jobs. Otherwise at this stage it's just a tick box exercise.</p>
<p>There is too much use of paper in these proposals. They could have been condensed and trees would have been saved.</p>
<p>Time will tell if the Council Plan will make a difference.</p>
<p>Your statements include good points and not so good then ask for agree or disagree. This makes answering difficult.</p>
<p>We are fed up with words. Action is required. Too much a political stunt.</p>
<p>All a bit vague! No mention of priorities if one aim conflicts with another.</p>
<p>It's OK on paper but I think 'powers that be' need to visit our area on a regular basis so that they are 'hands on' with requirements and how any changes are progressing. This is sadly lacking in Killamarsh.</p>
<p>It's all too vague to have any meaning.</p>
<p>The commitments would achieve the aims, whether the commitments are achieved remains to be seen.</p>
<p>The plan could be stronger in some areas. The plan reads like a high level manifesto and therefore covers all bases but is in danger of being so high level that it delivers nothing. The bit I am unable to see is how this translates into action, targets or deliverables for the council year on year. Tangible, measurable deliverables (SMART) targets in the text would make this more tangible.</p>
<p>The way the Councils aims are presented it is hard not to agree as it would be illogical to do so. However you will be measured by whether they are actually delivered and at what cost to the tax payer.</p>
<p>If all the aims can be met, we shall have an even better district than we have at present.</p>
<p>Generally doing a very good job under difficult circumstances. Well done! I think the Lea Valley project needs completing before it looks better but so far so good. Also essential we keep on top of the growing trend towards drugs and sexual trend in the way we are all being encouraged to become gay or transsexual! A lot of displeasure has been raised about Sainsbury promoting this!</p>
<p>On paper the words about strategies, values, commitments and aims all seem laudable. It would be wonderful if these came to fruition and you were able to deliver.</p>
<p>Be very proactive in pushing forward the councils' commitments.</p>
<p>Thank you for giving us the opportunity to consider and comment on your draft Council Plan. As leader of Derbyshire County Council I can see many areas where our aims and priorities align with those of North East Derbyshire District Council and, with other</p>

Q5. Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

key partners, can see several areas within the draft plan where there are potential opportunities for shared action and collaboration. North East Derbyshire Council's ambition to tackle climate change and reduce its carbon footprint is a key area where there is clear alignment with our own priorities, as is developing the visitor economy and promoting our diverse heritage offer. Transforming the way our council works is central to our ambitions, all whilst spending money wisely and we also have an ambition to make a council tax freeze in 2020/21. I agree that all Derbyshire council services should deliver high quality cost-effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff, however I believe this priority could be further strengthened through making a commitment to working with partners in much more collaborative ways. This is especially true with redesigning services and being innovative, recognising the need for public sector agencies to work together for the benefit of residents and communities given the reducing public purse. We are keen to continue to maximise and even transform where necessary, the long standing and reputable partnership arrangements between councils in Derbyshire to make this possible. I am pleased to see that the draft plan makes a commitment to investing in local communities through the delivery of an Action Grant Fund. Derbyshire County Council also has an open Action Grants programme for the voluntary and community sector and we would be keen to work with you on ensuring that both grant schemes are complimentary and make the best use of valuable resources for the sector. Derbyshire County Council is well on its way to delivering its ambition to become an enterprising council and I would welcome all opportunities to support the North East Derbyshire District Council in delivering against its aims and priorities where they align, which can significantly enhance the impact of our services and quality of life for our residents.



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

North East Derbyshire District Council Council Plan Consultation - July 2019

Council Plan

Our vision for North East Derbyshire is a place that is clean and attractive, a place where people are proud to live and work, where they will prosper and are safe, happy and healthy.

The District Council intends to publish its draft Council Plan for 2019 - 2023. This is a strategic document setting out the Council's high level aims over the next four years and we want you to have your say.

Before completing this questionnaire we suggest you read the full copy of the Council Plan by visiting our consultation website www.askderbyshire.gov.uk

Bearing in mind our responsibility for the following public services and functions (listed below), we want your views on whether you think the commitments we are proposing will deliver our four aims for the district.

Council tax and Business Rates	Licensing
Community Safety	Planning applications, policy and strategy
Environmental Health	Public open space
Housing and Council Tax benefits	Refuse collection and recycling
Housing provision, policy and strategy	Street cleansing
Leisure and tourism	

The plan will focus on four key aims for our District:

1. Enhancing our residents' quality of life
2. Protecting and promoting the character of our District
3. Delivering high quality cost-effective services by engaging with our residents, our partners and our staff
4. Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs.

For Aim One: Our Residents Enhancing our residents' quality of life

We are committed to:
Providing a range of leisure facilities for our communities.
Engaging better with our communities.
Improving our housing.
Protecting the most vulnerable within our communities.
Helping communities address local issues and concerns.

Q1 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Enhancing our residents' quality of life"?
(Please choose one answer only)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**For Aim Two: Our Environment
Protecting and Promoting the character of our District**

We are committed to:

Protecting the character of our District by undertaking a review of the Local Plan and the proposed sites within the Green Belt; Working with our communities to encourage the delivery of Neighbourhood Plans; and enhancing planning enforcement activity to address environmental crime.

Tackling climate change by developing and delivering a climate change and carbon reduction strategy; continuously reviewing our operations and facilities to meet our carbon reduction pledge; working with residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint; and embedding a culture of 'green thinking' amongst staff, residents and businesses.

Ensuring a clean, green environment by; enhancing litter enforcement; implementing litter picks and Love Where You Live initiative; adopting a preventative approach to tackling environmental crime; and tackling fly-tipping.

Enhancing the natural environment.

Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Protecting and promoting the character of our District"?
(Please choose one answer only)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

For Aim Three: Our Services
Delivering high quality cost-effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff

We are committed to:

- Transforming how our Council works by working with staff to redesign services; freezing our part of the Council Tax for 2020/21; and undertaking a budget review.
- Creating a safe District in which to live and work by tackling anti-social behaviour; developing a car parking enforcement strategy; working with partners to lead a review of the District's Community Safety Partnership arrangements; and reviewing enforcement and maximising the use of tools and powers.
- Being a listening Council by ensuring consultations are fair, open and accessible; reviewing the Council's petition scheme.
- Providing high quality street scene by ensuring timely and efficient collection of waste; promoting recycling and ensuring effective street cleansing.
- Providing an effective and user-friendly planning service and ensuring effective planning enforcement.

Q3 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff"?
(Please choose one answer only)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

For Aim Four: Our Economy
Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs

We are committed to:

- Supporting businesses to maximise their potential.
- Ensuring a supply of high quality business premises.
- Supporting businesses with grant applications and advice.
- Attracting and retaining skilled jobs within the District.
- Creating university and higher education links.
- Facilitating job fairs and developing apprenticeships.
- Developing and promoting a visitor economy across the District.
- Implementing a revised District Growth Strategy.
- Town centre regeneration.

Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree that these commitments will help us to achieve the aim of "Creating a business friendly District that develops skills and jobs"?

(Please choose one answer only)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Q5 Are there any comments you would like to make about the aims and commitments that we are proposing in the Council Plan?

About You



All personal information provided to North East Derbyshire District Council will be held and treated in confidence in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

They will remain confidential and will not be shared with any third party. Your information is only used to analyse the results of the survey to help us understand the views of different people living in the district.

To view the North East Derbyshire District Council Privacy Notice please see our website www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

Q6 Are you...?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Prefer to self-describe

Q7 What is your age?

- 16-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-59 years
- 60-64 years
- 65-74 years
- 75+ years
- Prefer not to say

Q8 How would you describe your ethnic background?

- White Chinese
 Mixed heritage Prefer not to say
 Asian or Asian British Other (Please specify below)
 Black or Black British

Q9 Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

- Yes, limited a lot No
 Yes, limited a little Prefer not to say

Q10 How would you describe your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual Bisexual
 Gay Prefer not to say
 Lesbian

The deadline for responses is Friday 23 August 2019

Please return to:
North East Derbyshire District Council
Council Offices
2013 Mill Lane
Wingerworth
Chesterfield
S42 6NG



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

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