

FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PLACES

16 NOVEMBER 2022

Report of the Managing Director

Thriving Communities Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present an update on progress on the development of the Thriving Communities approach.

2. Information and Analysis

- 2.1 Thriving Communities is one of the Council's three strategic pillars alongside Vision Derbyshire and Enterprising Council and demonstrates the commitment to drive improvements to the Council's leadership of place at a strategic and community level, reducing demand through the delivery of a more efficient, system-wide preventative approach by:

- Preventing people from hitting crisis point
- Unlocking the power and potential held within communities
- Raising peoples' skills and aspirations to be enterprising and to thrive

On 18 May 2022, a presentation to the Places - Improvement and Scrutiny Committee outlined the work that had taken place in the five existing local communities – Cotmanhay, Danesmoor, Shirebrook, Gamesley and Newhall – and the more recent activity following expansion into Ashbourne and Langley Mill. Members were reminded of the potential of the approach to reduce demand and cost at a community level whilst improving outcomes and supporting people to live bigger and better lives.

Following the local induction sessions, held in February and March 2022 to re-connect and build relationships post Covid, work has been progressing to develop the Thriving Communities model and ways of working at the local level. As previously reported, this has included building Connected Teams of staff and local people and opening up welcoming, open spaces for staff and people to build community activity and offer help and support.

Feedback from community activity during this period, has been provided to the Board to assist in its remit to steer the corporate direction of the Thriving Communities approach. Whilst good progress has been made, the capacity of DCC (and partner) services to support innovative work on the ground has been limited. The impact of the pandemic, service priorities and pressures all place a heavy burden on delivering this collaborative agenda.

A presentation to the Committee will provide a recap on the Thriving Communities aims, update on recent progress and explain the current activity of the Thriving Communities Board in determining the future of the approach and its relationships with other strategic Council priorities.

3. Consultation

3.1 Not applicable

4. Alternative Options Considered

4.1 Not applicable

5. Implications

5.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

6. Background Papers

6.1 None

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 - Implications.

7.2 Appendix 2 – Thriving Communities Update

8. Recommendation

That the Committee note the latest position in respect of the Thriving Communities approach and current Thriving Communities Board activity to determine the future direction of the work.

9. Reasons for Recommendation

9.1 To ensure Members are aware of the current position and latest developments in respect of the Thriving Communities approach.

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Implications

Financial

1.1 None identified.

Legal

2.1 None identified.

Human Resources

3.1 None identified.

Information Technology

4.1 None identified

Equalities Impact

5.1 None identified.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

6.1 Thriving Communities is one of the Council's three pillars forming the Council's strategic approach in recognition of the need to work collaboratively with local communities and demonstrate the Council's commitment to the leadership of place. The ongoing development and roll out of the approach is a key deliverable set out in the Council Plan 2021-2025.