



WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Name and Date of Committee	EXECUTIVE – 12 JUNE 2024
Subject	WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PRODUCTIVITY PLAN 2024
Wards Affected	All
Accountable Member	Councillor Andy Graham – Leader of the Council. Email: andy.graham@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable Officer	Giles Hughes – Chief Executive Officer. Email: giles.hughes@westoxon.gov.uk
Report Author	Bill Oddy – Assistant Director, Commercial Development. Email: bill.oddy@publicagroup.uk
Purpose	To outline the proposed approach to adopting the Council’s Productivity Plan 2024.
Annexes	Annex A – Letter from the Local Government Minister about Productivity Plans
Recommendations	That the Executive resolves to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the requirement from the Government, outlined in the letter from the Local Government Minister at Annex A, for the Council to adopt a Productivity Plan; and 2. Agree to delegate the decision to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to adopt the Productivity Plan and submit it to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities by the 19 July 2024 deadline.
Corporate Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting Residents First • Enabling a Good Quality of Life for All • Creating a Better Environment for People and Wildlife • Responding to the Climate and Ecological Emergency • Working Together for West Oxfordshire

Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 On 16 April 2024, the Minister of State for Local Government wrote to Local Authority Chief Executives about Productivity Plans, a copy of this letter is attached at Annex A.
- 1.2 The plan needs to consider and include the following themes:
- How the Council has transformed the way it designs and delivers services to make better use of resources;
 - How the Council plans to take advantage of technology and make better use of data to improve decision making, service design, and use of resources;
 - The Councils plans to reduce wasteful spend within the organisation and systems;
 - The barriers preventing progress that the government can help to reduce or remove.
- 1.3 The plan needs to have “Member oversight and endorsement” and needs to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) by the 19 July 2024 as well as being published on the Council’s website.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 A small officer working group, chaired by the Assistant Director for Commercial Development, has been established to develop the plan.
- 2.2 The Productivity Plan was scheduled to be considered by the Executive on 10 July 2024. As a result of the announcement on 22 May 2024 by the Prime Minister that a General Election will take place on 4 July 2024, the Executive meeting previously scheduled for 10 July 2024 has been rescheduled to 22 July 2024. This is after the deadline which the plan has to be submitted to the Government (19 July 2024). For this reason, the Executive is asked to delegate the decision to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to adopt the Productivity Plan and submit it to Government, by the 19 July 2024 deadline.
- 2.3 A draft plan is scheduled to be ready by 17 June 2024 and this will be circulated to Executive Portfolio Holders to review and comment on prior to submission to the Government.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no additional financial implications associated with the Productivity Plan.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 There are no specific risks in adopting the Productivity Plan.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT

6.1 Not Applicable

7. CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY, AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Responding to the Climate and Ecological Emergency is one of the priorities in the Council Plan and this and will be a key component of the productivity plan.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

(END)