

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	11 th November 2020



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Community Wealth Building Action Plan	Cabinet Member (Community Engagement, Social Justice and Wealth Building)	Director of Planning and Property

Is this report a KEY DECISION (i.e. more than £100,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)	Yes
Is this report on the Statutory Cabinet Forward Plan ?	Yes
Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council? This should only be in exceptional circumstances.	Yes
Is this report confidential?	No

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to provide an opportunity for Cabinet to consider the draft South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan.

PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Cabinet endorse the Community Wealth Building Action Plan
3. That Cabinet ask the Deputy Chief Executive to prepare a delivery plan covering the period to March 2022 including resources to deliver the actions; the delivery plan to be considered by Cabinet in January 2021
4. That further engagement with the business sector is undertaken which will be reported to Cabinet in January 2021 and will feed into the delivery plan to be considered at that meeting
5. That the delivery plan above be considered as part of the emerging budget for 2021/22
6. That a Member Learning Hour on Community Wealth Building be held prior to the Cabinet meeting in January 2021

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

7. A short summary explaining the reason(s) for the report, such as being in line with the Corporate Plan, is a statutory/legal requirement/obligation or addresses some element of financial stability etc.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary Council	✓
Thriving communities	✓
A fair local economy that works for everyone	✓
Good homes, green spaces, healthy places	✓

BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

9. The Council has an ambition to change the way in which it undertakes Economic Development. We want to make our approach more focused upon cooperation between partners and citizens and with a greater emphasis upon delivering maximum benefit for the South Ribble economy and our residents in economic, social and environmental terms. With this in mind a commission to explore Community Wealth Building has recently been instructed with Matthew Baqueriza-Jackson an independent policy advisor who specialises in this area of work. The commission is now at an advanced staged where a draft action has been prepared.

PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

10. As evidenced in the new Corporate Plan and Community Strategy, the Council has an ambition and vision for Economic Development activity to be undertaken in a cooperative way involving a range of public, commercial and social sector partners and residents of the Borough. It also has the ambition that all activities undertaken by these partners should bring maximum local economic, social, democratic, cultural and environmental benefit for South Ribble and its residents.

11. The Community Wealth Building Action Plan, which is framed by the emerging new Corporate Plan and the existing Community Strategy, together with learning from elsewhere, therefore sets out South Ribble's approach over the next five years to further shifting our approach from one of 'Traditional' Economic Development to one of Community Wealth Building. Community wealth building is based on 4 principles as follows:

- Principle 1: 'Triple Bottom Line' Outcomes - success is the realisation of a range of social, environmental, health and well-being, cultural, and community outcomes

- Principle 2: Cooperation - organisations across the public, commercial and social sectors working together with residents to change the economic destiny of a place
- Principle 3: Localisation - harness wealth for the benefit of a local economy
- Principle 4: Anchor Institutions - are based in a place and shifting their behaviour so that greater benefit is realised. Anchor Institutions are big, often public sector Institutions (but not always) which have a significant stake in place because they spend lots of money buying goods and services, they employ lots of people, they own lots of land and assets, they often have a democratic mandate, and they are unlikely to go anywhere;

12. The Action Plan has been developed through a number of workshops with key Council Officers and Members of the Cabinet together with external engagement via the South Ribble Partnership and engagement with businesses. This is crucial to how the action plan moves forward as whilst the Council is an important player its success is reliant on other key stakeholders and businesses embracing the action plan.

13. The action plan is based on the five pillars of community wealth building and these can be summarised as follows:

- **Pillar 1: Progressive Procurement** - the approach of local authorities and other Anchor Institutions to buying goods and services is done in a way which enables local organisations the opportunity to compete and bid, and in a way which brings wider social and environmental benefits
- **Pillar 2: Advancing fairer employment and just labour markets** - the approach of local authorities, Anchor Institutions and wider business to employment and recruitment is undertaken in a fair and equitable way
- **Pillar 3: Plural ownership of the economy** - more democratic forms of businesses such as Worker Owned Cooperatives, Social Enterprise, and Community Interest Companies are provided with the conditions in which to flourish
- **Pillar 4: Socially just use of land** - this is about utilising the assets of local authorities and other Anchor Institutions in a more community focused way. This includes ensuring that all planning and development decisions bring community benefits
- **Pillar 5: Making financial power work for local places** - utilising existing resources such as pension funds in a more community focused and democratic way

14. For each of these pillars there are a number of actions identified to deliver the pillars and these are outlined in the appendix to this report.

15. Finally, the Action concludes making a series of recommendations which can be summarised as follows:

- **Recommendation 1 : Adopt Action Plan** – the Council needs to adopt the South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan at both Member and Senior Officer level. This will enable the actions and associated roles and responsibilities to be embedded into the workloads of relevant Officers and enable budget lines to be set against it.

- **Recommendation 2 : Resourcing** – the Council needs to look at resourcing the implementation. The consultant recommends 2 Officer roles one focused on delivery and one on the monitoring of outcomes of the action plan. There may, however, be other ways to resource this which need to be considered too
- **Recommendation 3 : Promotion and Communication** – the Council needs to communicate and promote the Community Wealth Building Action Plan to both South Ribble based business and residents. The Plan should also be promoted nationally through CLES' Community Wealth Building Centre of Excellence.

16. It is also worth highlighting that some of the actions and aspirations are already being undertaken. For instance, work on securing social value from development through requiring large developments to submit and implement employment and skills plans has been a requirement for 2 years. Work has also been undertaken on ensuring social value is an element of procurement practice.

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

17. Consultation during the work on the Action Plan has included key Council Officers and Cabinet. There has also been engagement with the South Ribble Partnership. Workshops with the Partnership and local businesses are ongoing at the moment and will feed in to the Delivery Plan.

18. The draft Action Plan was also presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 22nd October 2020.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The only other option is to not prepare a Community Wealth Action Plan or a reduced version. It is felt, however, that this would be an opportunity lost given the amount of investment in South Ribble over the next 5 years or so.

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

19. The action plan will provide wide ranging environmental outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT

20. Key risks need to be identified.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT

21. All relevant Equality implications need to be identified.

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

22. The advice outlined in the report suggests the resources required to deliver the action plan to be, as a minimum, two officer roles and a budget for communication and promotion. Subject to approval of the action plan, officers will provide recommendations to Executive Cabinet as to how this will be funded, this

will depend on whether there is sufficient in-house expertise and capacity within the council as a whole.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

23. Legal Services and Procurement have been involved in the development of these proposals. Work in particular with regard to a Social Value policy and Social Value Framework (in the context of procurement) is particularly advanced. Some of the finer detail still needs to be worked out but the broad principles are sound. This is a new departure for this council but something has been done elsewhere.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS (or There are no background papers to this report)

There are no background papers to this report

APPENDICES (or There are no appendices to this report)

Appendix A : Draft South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan

Director of Planning and Property

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