



South Staffordshire Council



Staffordshire
County Council

South Staffordshire's Growth Agreement

2019-2022



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1. South Staffordshire Growth Agreement - Foreword

This Growth agreement is a joint agreement between South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC) and Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and reflects the strong relationship and commitment to joint working that has been in place for many years between the two local authorities.

Building on this commitment the agreement provides an opportunity for the future for both local authorities to take a joint strategic approach to agree a focus on a range of key priorities that can only be delivered in partnership.

Cllr Philip Atkins, Leader, Staffordshire County Council explains:

“Our strong and successful relationship with South Staffordshire Council has delivered results with national significance in recent years. The near fully occupied i54 South Staffordshire site, and recent progress on a major extension to the business park, are bringing investment, income and higher skilled, better paid jobs to the area. This new agreement sets out our combined strategy to grow and develop South Staffordshire’s economy and its communities in a way that benefits everyone. Working together to plan for the future and combine our resources, our two councils will lay the foundations for long term prosperity and a great quality of life for people in South Staffordshire.”

Cllr Brian Edwards, Leader, South Staffordshire comments that:

The strength of our partnership working with Staffordshire County Council has helped to deliver major economic benefits to the district in recent years, including 8,000 new jobs since 2014 and average weekly earnings for a full-time worker in South Staffordshire increasing by £80 per week over the same period. This Plan aims to build on those achievements through continued collaborative working to bring forward further long-term inclusive growth for our communities and businesses, supported by the necessary infrastructure to locally maximise the benefits of growth in South Staffordshire.

South Staffordshire Growth Plan

Introduction

Staffordshire County Council, and South Staffordshire Council, has a strong history of working together in partnership to deliver better outcomes for residents. This can be illustrated through:

- The award winning i54 development, delivered in partnership with the City of Wolverhampton Council (CWC);
- Successful delivery of 2 District Deals in 2013 and 2016;
- Successful collaboration on a Local Learning and Skills plan;
- Superfast Broadband roll out.

Following on from these successes, South Staffordshire's Growth Plan 2019, seeks to further enhance and develop our strategic relationship, so that we can continue to improve the economic growth of the district, and build better three tier working; focusing on what is important to the residents of South Staffordshire.

The aim of this agreement will be to focus on land, infrastructure, regeneration, skills and the Community Health agenda.

1. Background

In January 2013 Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC) signed a District Deal which set out a range of local projects in South Staffordshire to support local regeneration initiatives and enhance economic growth across the district.

The District Deal was introduced to complement the Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SSLEP) infrastructure and to provide a framework to fund and deliver against local priorities. It focussed on 16 projects under 3 key headings which included:

- Economic Development;
- Transport and Infrastructure; and
- Workforce and Skills Development;

The Deal was structured in a way that would allow both authorities to progress a number of initiatives that in the past, for a multitude of reasons, may have been out of reach.

The projects identified were a mix of low cost, high impact initiatives and more long term inward investment programmes for strategic sites. Good progress was made on key transport and infrastructure programmes and strategic employment sites.

2. The District Deal 2 (DD2)

In 2016 South Staffordshire Council introduced its four-year Council Plan – ‘Your Council Supporting Your Place and Your Communities’ including three over-arching priority areas:

- A Skilled and Prosperous District;
- A Safe and Sustainable District;
- A Connected District.

The premise for DD2 was based on the recognition that many initiatives and solutions relating to both the growth agenda and building the community asset base are best delivered at a local level.

The success of DD2 and its delivery plan has further strengthened the strong two-tier working and partnership that exists between both authorities. Some key achievements in DD2 include the development of a local Employment and Skills plan, continued progress on the i54 South Staffordshire Strategic Employment Site, progressing the western extension to the i54 site and continuing to work together to progress the road access options to facilitate the delivery of the ROF Featherstone Strategic Employment Site.

The continued efforts and the focus on the continued success of the South Staffordshire economy has led to a number of notable successes. Between 2014 and 2017, 8,000 additional jobs were created in South Staffordshire, not only within existing businesses but within the additional 350 businesses that are now located within the district. These jobs are also putting more money into people’s pockets with the average weekly earnings for a full-time worker in South Staffordshire increasing by £80 per week over the same period. The earnings of residents of South Staffordshire exceed both the regional and national averages and are the second highest of all the Staffordshire districts.

3. Local context

South Staffordshire covers an area of 40,400 hectares with around 80% of the district being Green Belt. The rest of the district is classed as open countryside, with most villages having their own separate boundary. Settlements vary from larger villages to smaller hamlets. There are no towns or cities in South Staffordshire, but the district borders the Black Country urban area, including Wolverhampton, Walsall and Dudley, as well as bordering Stafford and Cannock Chase to the north.

Insight shows that the majority of working age people living in South Staffordshire commute to other areas to work, and residents travelling across borders to use NHS services such as New Cross Hospital, Russell’s Hall and others.

Demographics

The population of South Staffordshire's population is approx. 111,200 - this is an increase of 500 since 2016 with 40% of the population living in rural areas.

The district has an ageing population - by 2025 it is projected that the 64 – 84 age groups will have increased by 5,300 with an expected increase of 1900 people in the 85 and over category. The dependency ratio for older people in South Staffordshire is 40 older people for every 100 people of working age which is higher than the England average.

During this same period, it is expected that the population aged 16-64 will reduce by 2700 with 1% of South Staffordshire residents (1,500 people) living within the most deprived national quintile. Through the actions in this plan the aim should be to try and encourage growth and housing that will encourage younger people to live in the area thereby increasing the working age population.

In March 2019 70.3% of South Staffordshire residential addresses were within 350m of a bus stop with an hourly or better bus service. This compares to a figure of 75.0% countywide.

Locality Profile and Needs.

Recent work and consultation with parishes and the wider community carried out by South Staffordshire Council shows that resident's priorities and data led priorities can differ – this insight is summarised at the end of this document.

4. National and regional context

National and regional context is key to the successful delivery of any local growth plan and this agreement aims to support that across key areas that support local, regional and national aspirations:

Business, employment, growth and skills

Midlands Connect:

Midlands Connect is a partnership driven by civic and business leaders from across the region and is recognised by Government as the Sub-national Transport Body for the Midlands. Midlands Connect is a key pillar of Midlands Engine and by working together aims to get a better deal and influence for the Midlands in national transport infrastructure funding programmes. Midlands Connect has a particular focus on improving east/west connectivity to ensure the Midlands region can realise the benefits of agglomeration and reach its economic potential whilst optimising travel to work patterns between large, medium and small settlements.

In 2017 Midlands Connect published its 25-year transport strategy which identified the current and future strategic transport needs of the Midlands together with a rolling programme of strategic road and rail improvements based on a framework of strategic economic hubs and intensive economic growth corridors.

As part of this work Midlands Connect are undertaking a number of studies that will have an influence on South Staffordshire. These are currently at various stages of completion and include the Long-Term Midlands Motorway Hub Study, the Western Strategic Connectivity Study, the A5 Corridor Study, the Midlands Rail Hub Study and the Shrewsbury to Wolverhampton Rail Corridor Study.

West Midlands Rail Executive

West Midlands Rail Executive is a company limited by guarantee, owned by the partner authorities, created with the purpose of specifying and managing rail franchising for the West Midlands. In 2018 West Midlands Rail Executive published its 30-year Strategy which sets out its short, medium and long-term ambitious plans to provide improved rail services and stations across the West Midlands Rail Executive area. The Strategy has been produced in collaboration with Midlands Connect, the Department for Transport and the wider rail industry.

To the north of the District investment in HS2 and conventional-compatible services at Stafford Rail Station together with released capacity along the West Coast Mainline will be important alongside more immediate improvements that are being made through the West Midlands Franchise. These include:

- New direct services from Penkridge and Landywood to London via Birmingham New Street, Birmingham International and Coventry from May 2019.
- New electric rolling stock at Landywood together with a half-hourly service (Monday to Saturday) by May 2019 and on Sundays by May 2021.
- Additional services to provide 2-trains per hour (Monday to Saturday) in both directions at Penkridge including a later last service on a Saturday from May 2019.
- Enhanced Sunday frequency at Penkridge increasing from 1 to 2 services an hour together with earlier first services in both directions and a later last service on a Sunday from Birmingham by May 2021.

Improvements to the Strategic Road Network including the A5(T), the new M54/M6 Link Road and other Major Road Network upgrades will also be essential.

To the south of the District, the focus will be on improving the movement around and through the West Midlands conurbation to link settlements, strengthen the economy and increase access to jobs for residents. The new West Midlands Franchise provides some important improvements in the short-term. These include:

- New additional services at Codsall to provide 2-trains per hour between Birmingham and Shrewsbury Monday to Saturday from May 2019.
- A new hourly Sunday service at Codsall and Bilbrook from May 2019 with 2 services per hour at Codsall provided by May 2021.
- Increased rolling stock at Codsall and Bilbrook including 80 brand new diesel carriages to be introduced by 2020.

Staffordshire County Council is an active member of both Midlands Connect and West Midlands Rail Executive and will work closely with South Staffordshire District Council linking in with the preparation of the Local Plan where appropriate to:

- Positively influence and shape Midlands Connect transport studies and any technical evidence-based material used to inform their strategic programme of road and rail improvements.
- Positively influence West Midlands Rail Executive's future franchise priorities including the implementation of their Rail Investment Strategy.

Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

South Staffordshire Council and Staffordshire County Council are actively engaged with and continue to participate in the SSLEP. Both councils are committed to continuing to work collectively across both the SSLEP and the Black Country LEP to enable growth across the district.

Wolverhampton & South Staffordshire Economic Growth Zone

South Staffordshire Council, Staffordshire County Council along with the City of Wolverhampton Council are working together to deliver economic growth within the growth zone of the M54 corridor supporting the 4 key sites of:

- I54 South Staffordshire
- ROF Featherstone
- Four Ashes
- Hilton Cross

As the SSDC's Plan progresses there may also be other Growth Zone opportunities that arise that may require further joint working around infrastructure provision and delivery.

Education, Employment and Skills Plan 2019-2022 (EES)

SSDC has produced an EES Plan with the support of SCC. Locally, SSDC made a commitment through its Council Plan and District Deal with SCC to back the Government's commitment, to improve the UK's economy and prosperity, by supporting and promoting the area as a skilled and prosperous district.

The EES Plan demonstrates how both Councils aim to deliver locally on this commitment. The plan sets out the aims for South Staffordshire - working with the local community and partner organisations to ensure every individual and business has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and enjoy life to the full.

It is important to ensure residents have access to work and better paid jobs, leading to an improved quality of life for local people. All young people should be given the opportunity to gain the skills needed to help them into high quality jobs, and local businesses are supported to ensure they have a workforce with the right skills to support their growth.

The success of the EES Plan relies heavily on the co-operation and support of key partners and stakeholders. Whilst both Councils will play an important enabling and co-ordinating role, great importance is placed on working with the support of local partners for the successful delivery of this plan. This Plan will also be shaped and influenced moving forward by the implementation of Local Industrial Strategies and Skills Advisory Panels.

Strategic Infrastructure Planning

Both local authorities recognise the importance of appropriate infrastructure to support the economy and the future communities through the Staffordshire Strategic Infrastructure Plan. We will work together to secure that infrastructure insuring sustainable positive outcomes for citizens and business through the plan. The Strategic Infrastructure plan will be available during 2019.

Industrial Strategy – Building a Britain Fit for the Future

Published by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the Industrial Strategy outlines the Government's approach to creating high quality, well paid jobs across the country. The Government is committed to working in partnership with places to develop Local Industrial Strategies. The first Local Industrial Strategies will be agreed in 2019 and will prioritise areas with the potential to drive wider regional growth.

Housing delivery

Nationally the Government is encouraging and seeking to accelerate housing delivery, utilising changes to the planning system, and reducing barriers to development. The District and the County aim to demonstrate shared ambitions in terms of seeing an increase in and a wider choice of housing, additional economic growth, including job creation across the spectrum of sectors. Although this growth must be supported by the relevant and required infrastructure and minimise the impact on local communities. It is also recognised that any growth needs to fund

infrastructure needs through 106 agreements or through Community Infrastructure levy (CIL).

The Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) for South Staffordshire is 254 new homes a year, equalling 4826, to be delivered between 2019 and 2037

As part of the Local plan consultation the district has set out a range of housing options based on the availability of land, previous delivery and the findings of growth studies. Allied to the requirement of local growth, the County Council are also seeking the accelerated delivery of both housing and employment opportunities to meet the needs of the population of Staffordshire and its environs. Both authorities will work together to ensure sustainable growth that meets the identified need, to include the delivery of necessary infrastructure to both minimise the impact on local communities but to also ensure new development is sustainable.

Wider housing market

Both the District and County are mindful that South Staffordshire is also part of the wider Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area, which faces a significant shortfall of houses on recent evidence. As part of their recent Issues and Options Consultation for their new Local Plan, South Staffordshire is currently looking to test providing up to 4,000 new homes above and beyond meeting their own needs identified above. Both authorities will work together to understand the pressures this creates and to ensure that whilst the locality makes its positive contribution to addressing need, this is based on the necessary infrastructure and minimising impact on local communities.

Employment sites

As part of the Local Plan review both Councils' will work together on the identification and delivery of further employment site developments providing a suitable balance of housing and employment growth across the district and meet the needs of appropriate industrial sectors.

Working in partnership with the SSLEP we have already accelerated development at the Four Ashes Park site, following investment in critical highways infrastructure. At the time of writing a speculative unit of 450,000 square feet is available on this site for immediate occupation, following the significant investments of Gestamp and Haulotte on to the site.

We are also bringing forward the first phase of the i54 Western Extension which will create up to 1 million square feet of new employment floorspace, and we are continuing to investigate proposals for the former ROF Featherstone site which could provide for up to a further 1.6 million square feet of commercial floorspace.

5. Evolving the District Deal approach into a Growth Agreement for 2019 and beyond

In May 2018 The two Leaders and CXO met to discuss how they could build on and further develop the District deal approach to build on the joint working around both the Economic growth, Infrastructure, and Health agendas, recognising the good work that has happened to date but starting to develop a vision led approach.

Both authorities recognise that this next phase should be led at a local level building on the strong Locality working model developed over the last 10 years in South Staffordshire, but also reflecting the growth agenda at a regional and national level. The key aim is to support inclusive growth in housing and employment through the provision of appropriate infrastructure for health, education and transport therefore supporting a joint vision for growth for the area.

This recognises that there is a joint willingness to set a direction for sustainable growth in the district with the specific aim of working together to identify development opportunities in the district in the long term, building on the history of strong collaboration and partnership work between the two authorities. This will demonstrate to partners both LA's commitment to growth and delivery by clearly setting out priorities and an agreed approach to their delivery.

This plan outlines a set of key working principles that both LA are committed to at all levels. These principles are critical particularly as they will help to build on stronger 2 and potentially 3 tier working with the role of the local members being key. The plan is ambitious in both its content and aspirations, outlining a path for both the county and the district to position themselves with wider national and local partners such as the sectors development industry and the NHS.

6. Joint working principles

Both Local Authorities have agreed a range of working principles that will translate through into **how** in partnership we will deliver growth for the area. These are:

- Delivery through the continuation and development of strong partnership working in the area working closely with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and others to maximise sustainable investment.
- An agreement to use **growth to support and fund** investment focusing on what is feasible and achievable whilst at the same time continuing an aspirational approach.
- An inclusive growth approach ensuring that economic and housing growth leads to long-term sustainable benefits for residents, businesses and visitors.

- Deliver closer Local authority 2 and 3 tier working to enable service re-design and better collaborative working at all tiers with a focus on putting communities first and an intent to work towards further longer-term integration.
- Proactive partnership to deliver growth and associated development activities including infrastructure provision and considering possible site acquisition together with associated funding.
- To work with national and regional agencies in a coordinated manner to ensure the delivery of major infrastructure programmes and projects bring maximum benefit for local communities and businesses whilst ensuring their impact during construction on local communities, the economy and the environment is minimised.
- Continue to work together on service redesign.

This approach will be endorsed through a governance structure in both SCC and SSSC at cabinet level with ownership for the agreement sitting at that level.

7. Key Deliverables

Discussions have concluded that there are four key deliverables to this plan. These deliverables link closely to the national and regional context outlined above.

- Business, employment, growth and skills; ensuring our population has the right skills and access to employment opportunities that in turn will deliver a great quality of life and disposable income that will support and enhance local centres.
- Sustainable housing delivery; working to ensure there is a robust supply of housing sites to meet planning requirements, but that it is sustainable and limits impact on the population of South Staffordshire.
- Working better together', taking a place-based approach to strengthen outcomes within our community's wellbeing, and in doing so strengthen 3 tier working
- By working closely on the development and implementation of the county Strategic Infrastructure Plan and the South Staffs Infrastructure plan ensuring that the appropriate infrastructure is in place and funded by growth.

An action plan is attached to this document as Appendix 2 will link these deliverables to performance targets and will be a live document that will support this agreement but will be amended as the agreement progresses.

Specifically, this will focus on the following priority projects which are shown in more details at Appendix 1

Business, employment growth and Skills

- **I54 Extension**; building on an already effective partnership, we will continue to work to deliver all the economic outputs of i54 which through the efforts of the partnership, led by South Staffordshire District and Staffordshire County Councils has delivered a major employment site of local, regional and international importance.
- **ROF Featherstone**; this is an important site for both the locality and the sub region. It is inextricably coupled to the delivery of the M54 M6 link road. Both authorities will work tirelessly with the developer and all associated groups to deliver this site to provide employment opportunities on what is essentially a brownfield and challenging location. Working in partnership, the preferred access options to the site continue to be explored, and we will investigate how these could link in to aspirations for a “parkway” station on the West Coast Mainline in the context of wider growth in tandem with the review of the Local Plan.
- **South Staffordshire’s Education, Employment and Skills Plan**; joint working to not only secure the sites for economic growth but to ensure residents have the skills and aspirations to take advantage of the future high value jobs created on our employment sites.

Housing delivery and supporting the Strategic Infrastructure Plan

- Focus on supporting the delivery of the emerging local plan.
- **Housing delivery**: working in partnership we will work together to ensure a robust supply of housing sites, both through planning and delivery, that is supported by the necessary infrastructure and works with communities to address negative impact.
- **Strategic Infrastructure Plan and the South Staffs Infrastructure Development plan**; the benefits of growth are clear. However, those benefits cannot be maximised, and could even be detrimental, for and to local communities and even the success of the growth if there is not the associated infrastructure, in all its forms, in place to make projects and programmes work hard for the district. Allied to this, the County Council will work to deliver a Strategic Infrastructure Plan that will consider the cumulative impact of growth across the county and the needs of cross boundary infrastructure to support it and to compliment the individual district Infrastructure Delivery Plans.

8. Working Better Together

Health & Wellbeing

It is recognised that South Staffordshire Council makes a significant contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of residents and is an important partner to the County Council, the CCG's and other local NHS services. Whether this is through direct service delivery or through its enabling and influencing role, South Staffordshire Council has a key role to play in supporting the local health economy. Both authorities recognise that by working together they can deliver a health and wellbeing programme that is community based and builds on community assets at all tiers.

As such it has been agreed that there will be a focus on the following priorities:

- **Supportive Communities** – collaborate with SCC to implement a Supportive communities approach across South Staffordshire to support the Health & Care prevention agenda.
- **STP** – support the STP Prevention plan
- **Place Based Approach (PBA)** – further develop the PBA into an all age model that will specifically take a cross border approach with other districts and will also bring together the Supportive Communities and PBA agenda.
- **Social Prescribing** – continue to work with and support the Cannock, Stafford and Seisdon CCG's with the development of their approach to Social Prescribing schemes.

Improved Three Tier Working

South Staffordshire Councils first introduced a locality operating model in 2008. The council worked closely with its LSP (Local Strategic Partnership) to develop an infrastructure that would strengthen communication; reduce duplication and maximise resources across the public sector family.

Local government and the wider public sector are continuing to experience financial pressures and continued periods of uncertainty as has been shown recently with SCC budget pressures. However, taken together these uncertainties do present opportunities to do things differently particularly by working together closer at the three tiers of local government and by taking an approach forward that focusses on 'Communities First'.

This approach will specifically look at the three tiers of local government can collaborate on a range of issues namely:

- A series of joint members events that focus on local democracy working together and build upon the principles outlined earlier in this document, building on the Lets Work Together model of working.
- An approach to all age PBA that focusses on 3 tier working by working together on an integrated data exercise on a ward basis to explore the benefits of better integrating data.
- A Public Realm Proposal bringing together county, district and parish aspirations for the public realm.

9. Governance Arrangements

This Growth agreement will be agreed through the usual governance processes in each local authority and will be monitored on a regular basis at joint meetings between both leaders and CXO with the ownership of the agreement sitting at cabinet level in each council.

Local members from both local authorities will be briefed in full at the Local members priorities meetings – there is a joint SCC and SSSDC meeting every 3 months.

Appendix 1.

 South Staffordshire Council				
South Staffordshire as a whole - What needs to be improved?				
<u>Locality Profile</u>		<u>Priorities from resident survey:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living longer but not living well. • Long term health conditions. • Employment gap. • Low GCSE attainment. • Low qualifications. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Road and pavement repairs, highest need for improvement across all localities 2. Level of crime. 3. Clean streets and Countryside. 4. Health Services. 		
Locality Specific				
Locality 1	Locality 2	Locality 3	Locality 4	Locality 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities & job prospects - <i>Huntington and Hatherton.</i> • Health Services. • Children experiencing poorer outcomes excluding <i>Penkridge South East.</i> • Excess weight and obesity in 4-5 year olds. • Affordable housing. • High risk of loneliness - <i>Huntington and Hatherton.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transport. • Maintaining identity/not being part of the conurbation. • Improving the general infrastructure. • Protection of green spaces. • Affordable housing. • Excess weight and obesity in 10-11 year olds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE attainment and persistent absences – <i>Great Wyrley High School.</i> • Children experiencing poorer outcomes - <i>Great Wyrley Landywood & Great Wyrley Town.</i> • Crime and ASB. • Teenager activities. • Community activities. • Improve financial management/don't waste money. • High risk of loneliness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the general infrastructure. • Health Services. • Unemployment - <i>Perton lakeside & Bilbrook.</i> • Children experiencing poorer outcomes - <i>Perton lakeside & Bilbrook.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE attainment – <i>Kinver High School.</i> • Public transport. • Health Services. • Children experiencing poorer outcomes - <i>Trysull & Seisdon & Wombourne South West.</i>

Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC) Growth Agreement

Action Plan

Agreed Project with joint interests

Priority	Key Milestones/Targets	Measurables and Progress to Date	Lead Officer	Rag Rating
Employment				
I54 Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of access road June 2019 to April 2020 - Proposed development plot preparation works Q1 of Financial Year 2020/21 to Summer 2021 (TBC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site allocated in South Staffordshire Local Plan SAD Sept 2018 - SSLEP funding secured December 2018 - Outline planning permission secured January 2019 - SCC Cabinet Approval secured January 2019 - Call off contract for construction of access road awarded – May 2019 - 	Anthony Hodge (SCC), Grant Mitchell (SSDC), John Flynn (SCC), Jon Vining (SCC)	
ROF Featherstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stage 1 technical work pursuant to Parkway Station due Aug 2019 - Continued feasibility work to inform in principle investment from SCC due Autumn 2019 (subject to clarification of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site allocated in South Staffordshire Local Plan SAD Sept 2018 - Options Appraisal Framework (OAF) completed Feb 2019 - Appointment of SLC Rail to 	Anthony Hodge (SCC), Grant Mitchell (SSDC), Jon Vining (SCC) Kelly Harris (SSDC)	

	potential in principle partnership investment in access project due Autumn 2019 (subject to confirmation of developer intentions and commitment)	provide Stage 1 technical work pursuant to Parkway Station proposals June 2019		
South Staffs Employment, Education and Skills plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the 16-17-year-old participation rate remains equal to or above the Staffordshire figure (April 2019 = 95.2%; England figure of 92.3%). With the NEET figure being equal to or lower than the Staffordshire figure (April 2019 = 1.6%; England figure 2.8%). - Improve the attainment of Year 11 pupils to be equal to or above the Staffordshire average of xx%. - By the 2020/21 academic year all secondary schools will be engaged with the Careers and Enterprise Company and linked to an Enterprise Advisor. - Increase the percentage of 	<p>Jointly produced South Staffs Employment, Education and Skills plan in 2018.</p> <p>Established Employment, Education & Skills Board in 2018.</p>	<p>Anthony Bamsey (SCC), Grant Michell (SSDC) Angela Schulp (SDM)</p>	

	<p>adults aged 16-64 with NVQ level 3 or above as this is currently lower than the national average of xx% (South Staffordshire = xx%).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree an Employment and Skills Plan (ESP) Framework template for any key strategic infrastructure projects that come on line within the district. ESP enable the LA to secure an agreed funding allocation from the site developer to operate job brokerage models. 			
Infrastructure				
Strategic Infrastructure Plan	Continue to support South Staffordshire District Council regarding the development and delivery of both their current adopted Local Plan and their emerging Local Plan.		Anthony Hodge (SCC) Grant Mitchell (SSDC)	
South Staffs Infrastructure Development Plan	Work with South Staffordshire District Council, national and regional agencies in a co-ordinated manner to ensure the		Grant Mitchell (SSDC), Kelly Harris (SSDC),	

	delivery of major infrastructure programmes and projects bring maximum benefits for the local area whilst ensuring their impacts during construction are minimised.			
Connectivity	Work in partnership with South Staffordshire District Council, the rail industry, and partners to investigate and develop the Brinsford Parkway Station Concept at ROF Featherstone in relation to the review of the Local Plan.	Appointment of SLC Rail Ltd to undertake Stage 1 technical work. Stage 1 Technical Report due to be concluded in August 2019.	Clare Horton (SCC), Kelly Harris (SSDC),	
	Work closely with South Staffordshire District Council to positively influence and shape future Midlands Connect strategies, transport studies and their strategic programme of road and rail improvements to positively reflect the emerging needs of the new Local Plan	Actively engage with South Staffordshire District Council in respect of Midlands Connect emerging strategies, studies and strategic programmes. Current studies and Programmes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term Midlands Motorway Hub Study • Western Strategic Connectivity Study • A5 Corridor Study • Midlands Rail Hub Study • Major Road Network 	Clare Horton (SCC), Kelly Harris (SSDC),	

		Programme		
	Work closely with South Staffordshire District Council to positively influence West Midlands Rail Executive's future strategies including the development of their franchise strategy and the implementation of their Rail Investment Strategy to positively reflect the emerging needs of the new Local Plan.	Actively engage with South Staffordshire District Council in respect of West Midlands Rail Executive future strategies including their franchise priorities and the implementation of their Rail Investment Strategy. Staffordshire County Council representation on the Future Franchise Strategy Task and Finish Group.	Grant Mitchell & Kelly Harris (SSDC)	
	Continue to support South Staffordshire District Council regarding the development and delivery of both their current adopted Local Plan and their emerging Local Plan.	To ensure the South Staffordshire District Integrated Transport Strategy is updated and developed in line with the new emerging Local Plan.	Kelly Harris (SSDC)	
	To work with South Staffordshire District Council, national and regional agencies in a co-ordinated manner to ensure the delivery of major infrastructure programmes and projects bring maximum benefits for the local area whilst ensuring their impacts during construction are	To work with national and regional agencies including Highways England and Network Rail to positively influence their future investment strategies and programmes to positively reflect the emerging needs of the new Local Plan.	Grant Mitchell & Kelly Harris (SSDC)	

	minimised.	To respond to the current M54/M6 Link Road consultation.		
Wellbeing				
Improving Three Tier Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint briefing on 3/9/19 for County and District Members led by the two CXO regarding the three tier working project. - SSDC to identify engage with up to 6 parishes regarding the initiative. - Identify areas where three tier working can be maximised to adopt the Communities First approach. 	Work initiated at two strategic group meetings in January and May 2019.	Dave Heywood (SSDC), John Henderson (SCC) Cllr Victoria Wilson Angela Schulp (SDM)	
Supportive Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and implement the Supportive Communities model in South Staffordshire 	Initial partner briefing planned for September 2019.	Angela Schulp (SCC), Jon Topham (SCC), Clodagh Peterson (SSDC)	
Place Based Approach (Huntington)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand the successful PBA way of working into an additional locality based on need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data exercise initiated July 2019 - Initial partner briefing planned for September 2019. 	Angela Schulp (SCC), Clodagh Peterson (SSDC)	
Locality Plan (Wellbeing)	Consider taking a similar approach to neighbourhood plans with Wellbeing focussing on prevention.		Victoria Wilson (SCC), Angela Schulp (SCC), Clodagh Peterson (SSDC)	

