

<b>Council Priority:</b>	<b>PROSPERITY - <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to be innovative, be entrepreneurial and fulfil their potential and prosper</i></b>
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<b>Commitments linked to this Council priority</b>	<b>1 - Investing in our town centres, bringing jobs and homes into our town centres to create vibrant, thriving places people wish to live, work and socialise</b>
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<b>Delivery Actions</b>	<b>Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action</b>	<b>Delivery Date</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Overall progress to date on Action</b>
<b>Support new businesses to open up in town centres and existing businesses to expand their offer through a wide package of financial support and interventions</b>					
Deliver a range of support for businesses to support their continued recovery from the covid-19 pandemic and encourage investment and innovation	Implement an integrated package of support for town centre businesses	Review Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	An integrated approach to supporting town centre businesses is important in achieving successful outcomes. This has been put in practise during the Covid Pandemic in delivering specific packages of support to businesses to help them adapt to new business conditions. For example 69 businesses have been supported in key and smaller town centres to develop outdoor spaces to improve their trading opportunities. This has required a joint effort across Council service areas and is a good basis for future working. A final round of covid restrictions business support has now been completed and delivered by the Council on behalf of WG/Business Wales in March 2022.  Now that Covid restrictions are lifted the Regeneration Team will be on the ground in key town centres identifying opportunities to support businesses to recover and grow. This will involve obtaining views and feedback from the business community to better inform developing packages of support.
	Deliver a Property Investment Programme in eligible key town centres	Review Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	A range of property and site redevelopment projects are currently underway as part of this programme (see updates below for further details)
	Roll out and lead on the WG Targeted Regeneration Programme on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region Authorities to provide support to new businesses and help existing businesses to expand	Review Mar-22	Derek James/ Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	The Council has continued to lead on the rollout of the Transforming Towns grant scheme to support town centre redevelopment across the CCR on behalf of Welsh Government and the other 9 local authorities. This is currently a £15 million investment programme.
<b>Where the private sector is unable to tackle empty or rundown sites and premises in town centres, proactively acquire specific key strategic sites and, in partnership with Welsh Government, seek to develop suitable town centre solutions</b>					
Identify key empty properties and disused sites across our town centres and develop suitable site specific solutions to bring them back into use	Map and identify empty properties and disused sites across our town centres and consider options appraisals for key sites	Mar-22	Derek James/ Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	Work to identify and prioritise town centre sites and premises which require redevelopment continues as part of the delivery and development of town centre regeneration strategies and frameworks
	Roll out and lead on the WG Targeted Regeneration Programme on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region Authorities to support the acquisition and redevelopment of disused sites	Mar-22	Derek James/ Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	The Council has continued to lead on the rollout of the Transforming Towns grant scheme to support town centre redevelopment across the CCR on behalf of Welsh Government and the other 9 local authorities.
	Ensure the successful delivery of current projects including new commercial premises on derelict land in Hannah St, Porth, a major refurbishment to the vacated Barclays Bank, Mountain Ash and creating new homes from vacant upper floor space in High St, Pontypridd.	Review Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	A range of property and site redevelopment projects are currently underway as part of this programme. These include the former Barclays Bank building in Mountain Ash which is being transformed into a multi use building by Cynon Valley Cancer Care who will operate the range of its services from the premises. Other notable redevelopments in Mill Street and High Street, Pontypridd are now substantially completed. It is notable that at the end of 2021/22 we have delivered 40 projects using this funding which included the town centre Covid based improvements to commercial premises. These schemes have a total £3.45m investment value with £2.5m coming from Transforming Towns funding and the remainder from private sector match funding.
	Continue pipeline project development in town centres including Porth, Mountain Ash, Aberdare, Treorchy and Tonypandy	Ongoing	Derek James/ Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	A strong pipeline of potential redevelopment projects is in development across key town centres.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
Further develop and deliver regeneration opportunities set out in the Pontypridd Strategic Opportunity Area, targeting empty and rundown sites which are significant to the regeneration of the town centre	Coordinate the delivery of major regeneration projects in Pontypridd including the Bingo Hall, YMCA and the Muni. In relation to the Muni redevelopment, submit a UK levelling up bid to support delivery of the scheme	Ongoing	Derek James/ Peter Mortimer	On Target	A major programme of regeneration investment is underway in Pontypridd. The VRP funded programme of improvement in Ynysangharad Park including upgrading paths and roads and associated lighting and the installation of a changing places facility in the Lido Visitor Centre block is complete. Work continues on the YMCA redevelopment which will complete by the summer. Works to demolish the former Bingo Hall site has completed in readiness for the redevelopment phase where plans are being developed for a hotel led mixed use development. A successful bid has been made and approval received for the UK Government Levelling Up Fund for the major redevelopment of the Muni Buildings into a major cultural hub. A multi disciplinary design team has been appointed and the design and site investigation programme is now well underway.
	Coordinate and support the development of further significant regeneration projects in Pontypridd such as the redevelopment of the former M&S building	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer	On Target	Further major investment and regeneration opportunities are being investigated and developed including the former M&S, Burton and Dorothy Perkins buildings which have been acquired. Investigation work is now underway on the building structures and options for future use being developed, including potential demolition followed by mixed use redevelopment. Further work is being undertaken for building acquisitions which will help to regenerate the town. The single storey retail blocks at High Street opposite the M&S building and adjacent to the Bingo Hall site have been successfully acquired and will help to facilitate the redevelopment of the Southern Gateway area of Pontypridd town centre. They will allow the development of a potential hotel development on the Bingo Hall site to now proceed.
<b>Develop a tourism offer including a range of attractions that encourages people to come to the County Borough and support businesses to develop a range of complementary services including quality accommodation</b>					
Develop a strategic approach to maximising the potential of the visitor economy throughout the County Borough	Produce an overarching Strategy that provides direction for the development of the Visitor Economy throughout the County Borough	Sep-21	Ian Christopher	Complete	The Visit RCT Tourism Strategy was approved by Cabinet on 23 September 2021, and is now the official and adopted strategy that will underpin all tourism related work and efforts. Prior to its approval, the Strategy (and accompanying documentation) was updated in-line with the views and proposed changes of the Scrutiny Group and Review Panel, including specific focus on an Equality Information Assessment (EIA) and Welsh Impact Assessment <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=132&amp;Mid=50003676&amp;Ver=4&amp;LL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=132&amp;Mid=50003676&amp;Ver=4&amp;LL=0</a>
	Support the development and delivery of significant visitor economy regeneration projects throughout RCT such as Zip World tower, Gravity family bike park and the Rhondda and Abernant Tunnels projects	Ongoing	Ian Christopher	On Target	Promotional activities continue to be delivered for campaign planning for the new financial year 2022/23. Social media adverts ran in Qtr 4, targeting specific cities and regions we know are "warm" to visiting Wales, including Birmingham, Bristol, Bath, Gloucester, Reading, Oxford, Wells and Weston. This campaign included Zip World Tower, Lanelay Hall, A Welsh Coal Mining Experience, Gravity Bike Park at Dare Valley Country Park and Janet's Northern Authentic Chinese Restaurant which reached 1.05 million people and was seen 1.6 million times. RCT led on the publicity and supported the recent UK Coach Week visit to Coin, Coal and Cheers, the joint itinerary delivered by A Welsh Coal Mining Experience, The Royal Mint Experience and Hensol Castle Distillery and this has been identified within the coach trade as one of the most lucrative experiences in South Wales. The team continue to support and attended the Rhondda Tunnel meetings, and the project still remains at the consultation stage.
	Establish an RCT strategic steering group involving key stakeholders from across the visitor sector to help drive forward the RCT Tourism strategy	Jun-21	Ian Christopher	Complete	The Visit RCT Strategic Steering Group was established as a closed membership group, consisting of members representing organisations including Edwards Coaches, Penderyn Whisky Distillery, Royal Mint Experience, Zip World and the accommodation sector. The steering group continue to meet on a quarterly basis and at the most recent meeting a new Member joined to represent Gravity Bike Park.
<b>Make it easier for shoppers to visit town centres using public transport or active travel and keep car park charges to a minimum</b>					
Investigate options for improving active travel within the Pontypridd, Aberdare and Porth town centres	Commission studies into active travel in the Pontypridd, Aberdare and Porth town centres	Mar-22	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	Studies have been completed and preliminary design work will be undertaken in 2022/23.
Deliver schemes to improve active travel into our town centres	Deliver the Commercial Street footbridge scheme in Aberdare to provide an active travel friendly route into the town centre	Jan-22	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	Works are complete
Review car parking charges in our town centres	Realign parking charges to encourage better use of the town centres of Aberdare and Pontypridd	Jun-21	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	

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<b>Support local small and medium sized businesses to supply goods and services to the Council</b>					
Build on the work delivered to date to provide opportunities to local small and medium sized businesses	Develop the Council's website to include an e-form for potential suppliers to record their details and express interest	Oct 21 revised Apr 22	Marc Crumbie	Target Missed	A graduate officer has been appointed to support this area and work will commence when they commence in their post in September 2022.
	Include details of current and upcoming tenders on the Council website	Oct 21 revised Apr 22	Marc Crumbie	Target Missed	
Support small and medium sized house builders and self builders to develop new and empty housing through the RCT Housing Strategy and Investment Service	Monitor and record the number of local contractors that are contracted by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to deliver affordable housing schemes in RCT that have been allocated Social Housing	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	The end of year Social Housing Grant Programme Development Plan includes a total of 28 schemes in the main programme. For these schemes, all contractors used were based in Wales with 5 of the contractors based in RCT.
	Monitor and record the number of local SME builders who are contracted by RCT through the Housing Grants Contractor Framework to adapt homes in RCT, ensuring our vulnerable and elderly residents are able to stay in their homes safely for longer.	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	There were 241 Disabled Facilities Grant Completions in 2021-2022, 191 for RCT and 50 for Merthyr Tydfil CBC. Total Assistance for the 191 RCT completions was £2.13m. The 191 DFGs completed utilised 22 different contractors, 12 (55%) of which were from RCT. A total of £1.62k was paid to the contractors for the works across RCT, of this, contractors from RCT received £1.05m. 21 contractors were from South Wales and 1 contractor was from England as they deliver specialist stair lifts.
	Monitor and record the number of local SME builders that are provided building work through RCT Housing Grants and loans. This would include the RCT Empty Homes Grant and the Houses into Homes loans.	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	There have been 11 Houses into homes loans completed in 2021/2022. All contractors used were from RCT. The total costs of works came to £405K, of which £275k was made through the loans scheme. During 2021/2022 a total of 259 homes have been brought back into use through the VTF EHG scheme, 171 (66%) are in RCT. A total of 293 contractors have been used to bring the 259 homes back into use, 209 (71%) of those contractors are from RCT resulting in an investment of £4.3M in RCT (Client and grant contribution)

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<b>Commitments linked to this Council priority</b>	<b>2 - Delivering major regeneration and transportation schemes, maximising the impact of the South Wales Metro, to create better places to live and work, whilst protecting and enhancing the County Borough</b>
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<b>Delivery Actions</b>	<b>Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action</b>	<b>Delivery Date</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Overall progress to date on Action</b>
<b>Consider a radically different approach to mobility in the new Local Development Plan to create a socially just, zero carbon mobility plan. This shifts mobility away from the car by eliminating the conditions that make cars necessary and enabling the use of electric vehicles</b>					
Prepare the Council's Revised Local Development Plan through to its adoption in 2024, ensuring climate change is a key consideration through the preparatory process.	Prepare the Preferred Strategy for the Revised LDP (RLDP), to include strategic level policies which include consideration of carbon reduction and climate change impacts and identify broad areas for strategic intervention in line with the development of the Council's climate change strategy	Nov-21	Owen Jones	<b>Target Missed</b>	The preparation of a Visioning Report is continuing. This will summarise and focus the information gathered from a series of visioning events, which identified climate change as a key issue to address through the LDP. The Visioning report will appropriately evidence the focus of the Preferred Strategy and its policies. In addition, the preparation of the comprehensive RCT Climate Change Strategy alongside the considerable threads of work undertaken by the Climate Change Working Group (and all other departments) are all being incorporated into the considerations for appropriate Preferred Strategy policies. However, the Preferred Strategy process was not suitably advanced to go out to public consultation in November. Alternative timetables and options are being considered to progress with the Revisions of the LDP.
	Undertake full stakeholder and public engagement in the preparation of the Preferred Strategy and Deposit RLDP along with full statutory public consultation on the produced documents	Preferred strategy Dec-21 Deposit RLDP Nov-22	Owen Jones	<b>Not on Target</b>	With regards to the Visioning events mentioned above, there have been two engagement events with officers from all sections of the Council, another two events with the Members Steering Group, another with the LDP Forum set up for external key stakeholders and organisations, and a presentation and discussion with the RCT Climate Change Working Group. There has also been a 6 week RCT engagement for the Visioning process – consulting identified bodies and organisations along with all RCT staff and also the general public, using the 'Lets Talk' RCT webpage platform. A Call for Candidate Sites took place from September through until the end of March. From this, over 220 sites have come forward for consideration for allocation in the Revised LDP for housing or other uses. This open call for sites encouraged all developers and landowners to put forward sites that are in suitable and sustainable locations.
	Prepare the Deposit RLDP to consider the most appropriate location of development and determine the most suitable land allocations, expanding on the strategic policies to more detailed local land use policies, embedding the principles of reducing carbon and climate change in all policies	Nov-22	Owen Jones	<b>Not on Target</b>	The Deposit LDP will be formulated following the Preferred Strategy. However, the initial stages of preparation as mentioned above, alongside the production of evidence to date, will ultimately contribute to its content, aims and objectives. However, the Preferred Strategy process was not suitably advanced to go out to public consultation in November. Alternative timetables and options are being considered to progress with the Revisions of the LDP.
<b>Develop town centre strategies for our principal town centres which values the uniqueness of each town while building on the benefits of the Metro and including new office accommodation to increase town centre employment, and homes above shops to create footfall in the towns</b>					
Lead and facilitate the delivery of Porth Town Centre Strategy	Co-ordinate the delivery programme for the Strategy project package	Ongoing	Derek James	<b>On Target</b>	The Porth Town Centre Strategy has been adopted for delivery by the Council and is now in the delivery phase. The co-ordination of the development and delivery arrangements for the strategy project package is being undertaken by a Project Board with associated delivery groups. These groups include officers from the relevant Council Service areas and technical advisors and representatives of construction contractors. This ensures the most effective project delivery arrangements.
	Lead on the development and delivery of the Porth Transport Hub and submit a UK levelling up bid to support delivery of the scheme	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer	<b>On Target</b>	The Porth Transport Hub is a cornerstone of the Strategy and will transform the northern entry to the town. Following the formal appointment of the construction contractor, on site mobilisation has been completed and preparatory groundworks are currently taking place on site in advance of the main construction elements of the Transport Hub.

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Support the delivery of Mountain Ash Town Centre Framework to take the town centre into the future that delivers economic growth and job creation	Support the development and delivery of projects within the framework such as Mountain Ash Town Hall	Ongoing	Derek James	On Target	The redevelopment of the Mountain Ash Town Hall has now been successfully delivered with a private sector led approach who will now manage the facility. The flexible work spaces are being actively marketed and the building is ready for occupation with the first tenants being signed up and taking up space. A high quality cafe has been established and opened on the ground floor for the use of resident businesses and the local community. A high quality event and hospitality space has been established on the first floor along with commercial kitchen facilities. Construction and redevelopment works are now completed to a very high standard giving this iconic building at the heart of the community a new purpose and lease of life.
	Lead on the development and delivery of agreed projects in the Framework such as the Redevelopment of Rhos (Guto) Square and Oxford Buildings	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer/ Claire Hutcheon	Complete	The completed Oxford buildings development provides up to 8 self-contained, high quality apartments specifically for adults with a learning disability. Individuals will have access to targeted support from care partners DRIVE to enable them to maximise their independence and promote choice. The redevelopment of Rhos (Guto) Square for town centre multiple uses and additional free car parking is now substantially complete and open for use.
Lead and facilitate the development of Tonypany Town Centre Strategy, an integrated, co-ordinated and holistic approach that takes into account the distinctive role of the town centre at the heart of the community and its important location for services, employment, housing and transport functions.	Co-ordinate the delivery programme for the Strategy project package	Ongoing	Derek James	On Target	A draft Placemaking Plan is being developed with the support and input of key stakeholders and advisors which will provide a framework for future investment and development
	Lead on the development and delivery of agreed projects within the town centre strategy, this includes the redevelopment of the co-op and 122 Dunraven street (burnt out building)	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer	On Target	The development and delivery of agreed projects will build on the successful delivery of regeneration projects in Tonypany. These include the reintroduction of traffic into parts of Dunraven Street. The redevelopment of the former Llwynypia Court House into a flexible business space for SMEs is now complete to a very high standard with all the improved space now occupied by tenants with 100+ people working there in a range of businesses. The demolition and redevelopment of the key Dunraven Street buildings destroyed by fire is now well under way with the demolition phase being completed and site preparation beginning. Further flexible workspace has also been developed and completed at the former HQ building of RHA adjacent to Dunraven Street.
Produce a town centre strategy/placemaking plan for Pontypridd	Develop a draft strategy/placemaking plan with the support of key stakeholders and advisors	Ongoing	Derek James	On Target	A major programme of regeneration investment is underway in Pontypridd. The VRP funded programme of improvement in Ynysangharad Park including upgrading paths and roads and associated lighting and the installation of a changing places facility in the Lido Visitor Centre block is complete. Work continues on the YMCA redevelopment which will complete by the Summer. Works to demolish the former Bingo Hall site has completed in readiness for the redevelopment phase where plans are being developed for hotel led mixed use development. A successful bid has been made and approval received for the UK Government Levelling Up Fund for the major redevelopment of the Muni Buildings into a major cultural hub. A multi disciplinary design team has been appointed and the design and site investigation programme is now well under way
	Lead on the development and delivery of agreed projects within the town centre strategy	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer	On Target	Further major investment and regeneration opportunities are being investigated and developed including the former M&S, Burton and Dorothy Perkins buildings which have been acquired. Investigation work is now underway on the building structures and options for future use being developed including potential demolition followed by mixed use redevelopment.. Further work is being undertaken for building acquisitions which will help to regenerate the town. The single storey retail blocks at High Street opposite the M&S building and adjacent to the Bingo Hall site have been successfully acquired and will help to facilitate the redevelopment of the Southern Gateway area of Pontypridd town centre. They will allow a potential hotel development on the Bingo Hall site to now proceed.

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<b>Deliver major road schemes such as the dualling of the A4119, the cross valley link, the Llanharran bypass and the A465 Cynon valley link road</b>					
Deliver dualling of the A4119 to improve road capacity and integrate into the wider regional transport network, supporting growth and development	Complete Dwr Cymru Welsh water (DCWW) advanced works to divert main sewer away from the proposed route	Oct-21	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	Main diversion works complete
	Go out to tender for construction of main works	Oct-21	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	Scheme currently out to tender
	Submit a UK levelling up bid to support delivery of the scheme	Jun-21	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	BID submitted to UK Government and subsequently approved
Deliver Cynon Gateway North, to link the A465 to the strategic highway network	Obtain planning permission for the Cynon Gateway North scheme	Nov-21	Andrew Griffiths	Target Missed	Awaiting Welsh Government decision
	Go out to tender for design and build for the main works	Dec-21	Andrew Griffiths	Target Missed	Delays to planning permission above have impacted on project timescales. Revised delivery date July 22.
Deliver Llanharran Bypass to fully integrate the Llanilid corridor into the wider transport	Obtain pre-planning permission for the Llanharran bypass scheme	Dec-21	Andrew Griffiths	Complete	Pre-application completed
<b>Investing in a number of park and ride facilities across the County Borough at key strategic metro sites, including Junction 34 of the M4</b>					
Deliver Porth Park and Ride Phase 3 to increase car parking provision	Gain planning permission and develop proposals through to detail design	Mar-22	Andrew Stone	Complete	Planning application gained and the detailed design has been completed.
Deliver Treorchy Park and Ride to increase car parking provision	Develop proposals through to detail design	Mar-22	Andrew Stone	Target Missed	Planning permission has been gained and detailed design is close to completion but there have been some delays due to drainage survey issues with Transport for Wales.
Deliver Llwynypia Park and Ride to increase car parking provision	Gain planning permission and develop proposals through to detail design	Mar-22	Andrew Stone	Target Missed	Planning permission gained and detailed design is close to completion but has been delayed due to drainage connection issues
<b>Ensuring all homes and businesses have at least access to superfast connectivity, with all key industrial and commercial hubs having access to ultrafast connectivity</b>					
Seek to ensure that connectivity is improved across the County Borough and that citizens can effectively access	Prepare report to SLT to outline options and recommendations to provide an enhanced Broadband coverage to areas of the local authority	Sep-21 revised Mar 22	Tim Jones/Simon Gale	Target Missed	All Wales baseline is being refreshed by Welsh Government. Action needs to be deferred until this is completed as data required to inform direction. It is anticipated this will be available early in the new financial year 22/23.
	Continue to work with partners and key suppliers to reduce the number of broadband "not spots" within the County Borough	Mar-22	Tim Jones	Target Missed	
	Complete rollout of Town Centre Wi-Fi to Pontypridd and Tonypany	Jul-21 revised Nov-21	Tim Jones	Complete	Wi-Fi now live in Pontypridd, completing the roll out to all town centres.
<b>Leading on the master planning of the new settlement at Llanillid and the connectivity with the M4 and existing rail connections</b>					
Further develop and deliver the regeneration opportunities set out in the Llanilid Strategic Opportunity Area	Develop a masterplan approach for Llanilid that maximises the current regeneration opportunities being presented including those through the Cardiff Capital region	Ongoing	Derek James	On Target	The consortium of landowners have made significant progress in undertaking the necessary technical work to develop a masterplan. A draft masterplan is being prepared with input from relevant Council officers. The masterplan will be assessed as part of the statutory 'Candidate Sites' process under the review of the Council's Local Development Plan in order to achieve a positive planning status. The work undertaken so far is also being used to promote the site through the Cardiff Capital Region's inward investment activity. Working with CCR and site owners a brochure was developed to promote the site at MIPIM and UK REIF investment conferences.
	Work with landowners and key stakeholders to develop and deliver the best use mix and outcomes for the potential of the Llanilid site	Ongoing	Peter Mortimer	On Target	A range of activity is being undertaken with relevant agencies and landowners to develop detailed delivery plans for education, highways infrastructure and new health facilities in the area. An update on this strategic work was presented to Cabinet on 13 December 2021. Work is ongoing in order to finalise plans for the new primary school and health centre. A number of planning approvals were submitted this quarter for additional ancillary facilities at Dragon Studios to support the latest Disney/Lucasfilms production at the site. <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s32612/Report.pdf?LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s32612/Report.pdf?LLL=0</a>

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<b>Supporting housing developers to bring forward major housing developments on former brownfield sites, such as former Cwm Coking Works in Beddau and the former Phurnacite Works in Aberaman</b>					
Support the development of 1,000 new homes on the former Cwm Coking works site, including a percentage of affordable housing	Support developer in the submission of a planning application to enable them to carry out the necessary remediation works (funded by CCR)	Mar 22 revised Sep 22	Chris Jones	On Target	Dialogue continuing with developers and Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to progress the development.
	Completion of all remediation works on site	May-24	Chris Jones	On Target	
Support the development of 300 - 400 new homes on the former Aberdare hospital site, including a percentage of affordable housing	Support developer in the submission of a planning application to enable them to carry out the necessary remediation works (funded by CCR)	Mar 22 revised Sep 22	Chris Jones	On Target	Work on-going with Cardiff Capital Region City Deal on progressing the Housing Viability Gap to remediate contaminated land conditions.
	Completion of all remediation works on site	May-24	Chris Jones	On Target	
Support the development of 150 new homes on the Heol y Wenallt site, including a percentage of affordable housing	Support developer in the submission of a planning application to enable them to carry out the necessary remediation works (funded by CCR)	Mar 22 revised Sep 22	Chris Jones	On Target	Dialogue continuing with developers and Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to progress the development.
	Completion of all remediation works on site	May-24	Chris Jones	On Target	

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<b>Commitments linked to this Council</b>	<b>3 - Ensuring we have good schools so all children have access to a great Education</b>
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<b>Improving pupils' achievement and narrowing the attainment gap</b>					
Develop a highly skilled Educational workforce and excellent leadership at all levels	Co-construct an Educational Directorate strategy that effectively supports schools and the community to plan for recovery	Sep-21 revised Nov-21	Gaynor Davies	<b>Complete</b>	Strategic document consulted upon, CYP Scrutiny Committee have pre-scrutinised and plan signed off by Cabinet. The revised plan now covers the period 2022-2025 and Cabinet have agreed revised implementation from 2022/23 financial year.
	Ensure the robust self-evaluation of Education Services to inform strategic planning, including the effective use of data, stakeholder feedback and learner voice to shape services and policy development	Ongoing	Gaynor Davies	<b>On Target</b>	Corporate self evaluation process has been completed and informed planning for 2022/23. Data systems continue to be further developed, including the training module within SIMS to record safeguarding information, which has been made available to all schools.
Support schools to deliver a transformational curriculum, high quality teaching and learning and improved outcomes for all, working in partnership with Central South Consortium to support schools with the greatest need to ensure accelerated progress	Through working with Central South Consortium, broker appropriate support to schools to identify and deliver improved standards of literacy	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	<b>On Target</b>	Despite the challenges of capacity during the Autumn and Spring terms, 92% of schools involved have engaged with the Comparative Judgement element of the RCT project, providing clear intelligence on technical writing skills. In addition, just under half of schools have engaged in the Teaching Writing Explicitly professional learning. Network meetings have taken place enabling schools to receive ongoing and specific guidance and support as required; evaluations have identified positive progress in some schools in supporting improvements in pupils' writing skills. Ongoing discussion on pupil progress with IPs is planned to take place in the summer term to further evaluate progress.
	The regional school improvement service, alongside LA officers will develop school and cluster-based research informed initiatives aimed at improving outcomes in writing	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	<b>On Target</b>	
	In partnership with CSC, develop and implement an early intervention programme to promote the acquisition of early developmental skills in the foundation phase	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	<b>On Target</b>	All settings have completed the physical literacy training programme and have created movement and play areas within their setting. The reflective session was very positive with many examples of the training and resources having a positive impact on the setting as a whole but more importantly on individual children's confidence, self-esteem and physical wellbeing. Children are using the movement and play areas to explore their bodies and their senses, have improved motor control, focus and attention. They practice turn taking, appreciate the space when others are occupying it and respect the resources. Children who have previously been very quiet and reluctant to participate within a group activity use the area with enthusiasm and confidence. They invite adults into the play space and communicate their play well.  One setting has recently undergone a joint Estyn / CIW inspection where it is reported that children's physical skills are developed well as a result of the recent training and support provided by the practitioners following this.
Identify learners most adversely affected by Covid-19 and support them to make progress through targeted and evaluated interventions		Dec-21	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	<b>Complete</b>	LA officers continue to work with Principle Improvement Partners to discuss and determine how there will be effective use of assessment and tracking across the LA used to identify those learners most adversely affected by Covid-19 and to inform targeted and evaluated interventions. A structure has been agreed for a Central South Consortium report that identified how leaders in schools, in collaboration with school improvement partners, devise and implement RRRS (Recruit, recover and raise standards) plans that deliver improved outcomes for targeted groups of learners with identified deficits. This will continue in light of the new monies awarded to schools during the spring term.
	Schools in statutory categories or causing concern are actively involved in progress meetings, access intensive support from CSC and make the required level of progress. Schools will be held to account where progress is deemed to be insufficient.	Mar-22	Gaynor Davies Sarah Corcoran Tim Britton	<b>Complete</b>	Only one school is in a reported category and all reports from CSC demonstrate that they are making strong progress. All indications are that this school will be successfully removed from category once re-inspected.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
Support and enhance the wellbeing of learners and provide a positive foundation for learning	Further improve attendance across schools and develop effective family engagement approaches to improve levels of attendance and participation	Feb-22	Daniel Williams Sarah Corcoran	Complete	Following the report to Cabinet on 17th June on family engagement approaches, the secondary pilot is continuing and family engagement officer posts are also being piloted across 13 primary schools. <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s28978/Report.pdf?LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s28978/Report.pdf?LLL=0</a>
	Develop an effective strategy to minimise the digital exclusion of learners	Oct-21	Catrin Edwards Elaine Pritchard	Complete	Approaches to support digitally excluded learners have been developed. Regular updates are provided to Scrutiny as part of the update on Education and Inclusion services support for schools and PRUs in response to Covid-19 <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s31433/5.%20Information%20Report%20-%20Estyns%20view%20of%20LA%20progress%20against%20thematic%20review%202021.pdf?LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s31433/5.%20Information%20Report%20-%20Estyns%20view%20of%20LA%20progress%20against%20thematic%20review%202021.pdf?LLL=0</a>
<b>Improving outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities</b>					
Ensure the right learning pathway for vulnerable learners and their families	Ensure effective delivery of the ALN Transformation plan to meet the requirements of the new ALNET Act and ALN Code	Mar-22	Ceri Jones	Complete	An evaluated Action Plan has been submitted to Central South Consortium Transformation Lead and arrangements are now in place to take this work forward as part of service delivery planning for 22/23
	Enhance the capacity of mainstream schools to meet learners' ALN through further development of training and outreach models	Sep-21	Ceri Jones	Complete	School ALN Co-ordinators were consulted in the ALNCO Forum session in July and feedback sought on required training opportunities. 2 Behaviour Support Teachers are now based at Tai Centre and work interactively with Tai staff to provide outreach to mainstream schools. The Early Years Outreach Support from Ysgol Hen Felin has been reviewed and revised processes and remit put in place to ensure it operates in line with revised Early Years Forum processes. An evaluation of the revised service will take place in Summer Term 2022.
	Continue to support mainstream schools to improve the quality of provision for learners with significant social, emotional and behavioural needs, including the development of bespoke alternative provision	Mar-22	Ceri Jones Sarah Corcoran	Complete	Although it has not been possible to make direct data comparisons for attendance and exclusions due to the disruption to learning caused by the covid-19 pandemic, evaluation of the Step 4 provision across the 2 tranches of pilot schools has shown overall improvement in the quality of pupil engagement in lessons and improvements in wellbeing, and has supported schools to plan clear pathways and post-16 destinations for pupils. Schools continue to provide termly progress reports and following the positive outcomes to date it is proposed to extend the approach to additional schools.
	Explore the potential for developing a regional sensory service	Apr-22	Ceri Jones Gaynor Davies	Target Missed	Progress on the regional sensory service has been delayed regionally due to the pressures of the covid-19 pandemic and this will be revisited 2022/23
Ensure that the needs of Children Looked After are effectively met	Evaluate the impact of PDG LAC on the outcomes of CLA and develop an action plan to address areas requiring further development	Sep-21	Head of EPS	Complete	CLA Quarterly Action Plan monitoring meeting held on the 27th Sept. Report and update given around CLA attainments, exclusions and attendance. Progress and take up on tuition shared as well as CLA friendly school update given.
<b>Supporting children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning through an improved early years' system and childcare offer</b>					
Develop a more integrated model of early years provision across the County Borough	Map early years provision across RCT and identify possible areas for development	Ongoing	Tim Britton Jess Allen Denise Humphries	On Target	The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report will go to public consultation in early summer. The action plan connected to the CSA will identify the priorities for the next 5 years.
	Develop online partnership forum and networking opportunities to support childcare sector	Jul-21	Andrea Richards Denise Humphries	Complete	The Early Years, Childcare and Play Development Partnership (EYCPDP) has been re-established and provides a forum for LA and childcare/play sector reps to share information and good practice. Online engagement and training events are held for the childcare sector and are well received.
	Continue to progress and deliver the remaining projects funded via the Welsh Government's Early Years Grant: - YGG Aberdar - Cwmlai Primary - Dolau Primary - Gwauncelyn Primary - YGGG Llantrisant	Mar 22 revised Jul 22	Andrea Richards Lisa Howell	On Target	Three schemes are complete and good progress being made to the last two remaining schemes at YGG Aberdar and Cwmlai Primary School. Both schemes on programme for construction completion by end of July 2022. Furniture and setting up of the new facilities with stakeholders will be completed in August for occupation of buildings September 2022.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Investing in new and replacement 21st Century Schools, whilst also meeting the demand for Welsh language provision throughout the County Borough</b>					
Effectively deliver the ambitious Band B programme and Education Capital Programme across the County Borough	Submit revised Band B Strategic Outline Programme to Welsh Government to request additional funding to extend the current envelope of funding	Jul-21	Andrea Richards Lisa Howell	Complete	Revised Band B SOP submitted 5th July 2021.
	Complete Stage 1 design process of the 3 pathfinder Mutual Investment Model (MIM) schemes	Jul-21	Andrea Richards Nicola Goodman	Complete	Stage 1 submission received from WEPCo (Welsh Education Partnership between Welsh Government and Meridian) on 5th July 2021
	Complete the outline business case for the 3 pathfinder MIM schemes for: - Penygawsi Primary School - Llanilltud Faerdref Primary School - Pontyclun Primary School	Sep-21	Andrea Richards Nicola Goodman	Complete	Outline business case submitted July 2021 and have now been approved by Welsh Government.
	Continue to progress the design stage for Greater Pontypridd school projects, including Bryncelynnog Comprehensive, a new 3-16 school at Hawthorn, a new 3-16 school at Pontypridd and a new Welsh Medium primary school	Ongoing	Lisa Howell Andrea Richards	On Target	Final Business Case approval received for Hawthorn High School. Pontypridd High School and Bryncelynnog Comprehensive approved in principle awaiting letter of final confirmation from WG. Final Business Case Approved for the New Welsh School in Rhydfelin and contractors have been appointed, shortly commencing construction on site.
	Continue to progress and deliver the Welsh medium capital projects to provide additional pupil capacity at YG Rhydywaun and YGG Aberdar	Aug-22	Lisa Howell Andrea Richards	On Target	Good progress being made , on programme for completion Summer term in readiness for occupation September 2022.
	Consult on developing a new Welsh medium school for YGG Llyn y Forwen	Sep-21	Lisa Howell Andrea Richards	Complete	Consultation complete, proposals approved.
Strengthen partnership approaches to the development and implementation of the new WESP	Work with key stakeholders on the development and implementation of the new Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and promote uptake of Welsh Medium Education	Mar-22	Gaynor Davies Grace Zecca-Hanagan Steffan Gealy	Complete	Following agreement by Cabinet, the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic plan was submitted to Welsh Government for approval in January 22 and is currently being considered by WG pending approval. Work continues towards new WESP targets, including the submission of a bid for grant funding to support Welsh language immersion. <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s32632/Report.pdf?LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s32632/Report.pdf?LLL=0</a>
Review special school provision across the County Borough	Undertake a comprehensive review and feasibility study of special school provision across the board and possible proposals for change and future investment in the special school sector	Oct-21	Ceri Jones Andrea Richards	Complete	A report on special school provision was presented to Cabinet on 4th October 2021 <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s31164/Report.pdf?LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s31164/Report.pdf?LLL=0</a>

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Support schools to successfully introduce and embed the new curriculum, raising the standards of educational performance for all pupils</b>					
Ensure that teaching and learning across RCT is adapted and developed in line with the demands of the Areas of Learning in the new curriculum for Wales	Ensure all schools short, medium and long term planning has been adapted and is in place to meet the needs of pupils and the new curriculum	Mar-22	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	Complete	The regional school improvement service (CSC) continue to provide help, support and guidance to all schools on their planning for the new curriculum. This will continue to evolve and develop over the academic year 2022-2023 as the curriculum rolls out to both primary, secondary and special schools.
	Ensure that, through Central South Consortium, there is effective monitoring and quality assurance of all schools robust Monitoring, Evaluation and Review cycles and this evidence is securely identified in the Evaluation For Improvement.	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	On Target	The SIPL (School Improvement Performance Log) has been adapted from September 2022 will incorporate Leadership & T&L in its reporting template. LA officers and PIPs will use these reports to support the QA systems and processes relating to school improvement allowing them to identify strengths and areas for development in all RCT schools moving forward.
	Ensure that, through Central South Consortium, all schools' readiness for curriculum reform is monitored termly and schools with the greatest distance to travel are well supported to engage in transformational change	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	On Target	A new system All Schools Review was introduced in the spring term 2022. This brings all LA officers and CSC staff together to discuss strengths and areas for development of all schools. CSC staff provide professional view on the leadership, teaching and learning and standards at the school. These reviews in the summer term 2022 will be monthly. Cynon schools discussed in April, Rhondda in May and Taf in June.
	Identify and share good practice across the LA through gathering knowledge from school Evaluation For Improvement (EFI) documents, performance meetings, discussion with CSC officers, feedback from families and learners and through the termly teaching and learning group	Ongoing	Tim Britton Sarah Corcoran	On Target	Due to pressure on staffing in schools the planned teaching and learning meeting has been re-scheduled for the first half of the summer term and will focus on teaching and learning Curriculum 2022. Schools self-evaluation processes require all schools to seek feedback from families and learners regarding the quality of their curriculum. Evidence from Improvement Partners demonstrates that most schools have effective systems and processes in place to ensure this feedback feeds into their Self Evaluation processes. Where this is less effective Improvement Partners aim to broker support. Improvement Partners have continued to provide strategic support and guidance to schools in their curriculum development. This has included signposting schools to CSC's professional learning offer, co-ordinating collaborative sharing of good practice between schools and supporting the profile of curriculum development through cluster- based working. CSC's Curriculum for Wales strategic team has provided bespoke support to individual schools as well as co-ordinating curriculum developmental work across school clusters e.g. Y Pant and Bryncelynnog. Monitoring processes have continued to profile the importance of high-quality teaching and learning and Improvement Partners have supported schools in quality assuring these processes. Schools currently in an enhanced category of support are in receipt of appropriate intervention and support to enable specific priorities to be addressed with appropriate expediency. CSC undertook an evaluation of blended learning across the region to include RCT schools. Subsequently a report outlining strengths and areas for development was produced and accessible to all RCT schools to enable them to look for further opportunities to improve their practice, if necessary. The results and conclusions from this report supported and substantiated the RCT school improvement survey from Summer 2020.
Continue to strengthen the ICT infrastructure and effective implementation of the Hwb programme and the digital strategy for schools	Ensure effective delivery of the Hwb Infrastructure investment programme and provide regular updates of progress	Ongoing	Catrin Edwards Tim Jones	On Target	The first phase of the infrastructure programme has been completed and provided WG with weekly updates.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Support pupils to understand the world of work and access good careers advice and guidance.</b>					
Support schools to develop a wider range of learning pathways for 14–19-year-olds and strengthen preparation for the world of work, training and further education	Create a system of support and training for career leaders to link learning to careers in the new curriculum, making subjects more relatable to working life.	Mar-22	Sarah Corcoran Kate Owen	<b>Complete</b>	A detailed review of the first 3 cohorts of Gatsby + (Now known as the Green Light Project) has been conducted. Feedback from schools, pupils and parents has been very positive. A further 12 schools will now be able to access the Green Light Project. Funding has been made available for an “In school” Green Light mentor and Level 6 Careers advice and guidance trained staff will act as coordinators in each participating school. The Gatsby project manager is working with “In school mentors” to support and quality assure provision, and is also liaising with senior leaders, parents and teaching staff.
	Develop and implement a framework to improve the safeguarding of learners undertaking extended work placements	Oct-21	Sarah Corcoran Kate Owen	<b>Complete</b>	A review of any pupil on extended work placement has been added to the termly Gatsby audit. 18 of the 22 schools submitted detailed audits in December 2021.
	Explore the possible establishment of the Junior Apprenticeship with Coleg Y Cymoedd	Jul-21	Sarah Corcoran Martyn Silezin	<b>Complete</b>	Due to the pandemic it has not been possible to progress establishing the Junior apprenticeship with Coleg y Cymoedd at this time, although information is still awaited from the college to ascertain if it will be plausible in future. However, an alternative offer has been devised, ‘Gateway to Employment’. This is a way to add a qualification to an extended work placement worth up to a grade BB equivalent through BTEC work skills. A pilot is running this year with Hen Felin Training Centre delivering the course and organising the work placements. This is a flexible modular course that will involve several placements and may be tailored to individual preferences. This has been aligned to the step 4 projects and is currently being aligned to the Gatsby+ work too.
Provide opportunities for pupils to learn more about potential career paths available to them, particularly in the local area	Develop and deliver a virtual work experience programme, providing opportunities for pupils to understand more about careers in the Council and other sectors	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	<b>Complete</b>	Films have been produced with various service areas across the Council which give an insight into different careers available. This work will continue to be expanded on an ongoing basis.

<b>Council Priority:</b>	<b>PROSPERITY - <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to be innovative, be entrepreneurial and fulfil their potential and prosper</i></b>
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<b>Commitments linked to this Council</b>	<b>4 - Increase the number of quality homes available and affordable to provide greater housing choice for residents</b>
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<b>Delivery Actions</b>	<b>Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action</b>	<b>Delivery Date</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Overall progress to date on Action</b>
<b>Increase the land supply for new sustainable, low carbon homes through an updated Local Development Plan or Strategic Development Plan from 2021</b>					
Work in partnership with Registered Social Landlords (RSL's) and other relevant stakeholders to explore opportunities to increase the amount of low carbon homes being developed.	Co-ordinate and chair the RCT Fuel Poverty working group, ensuring the most relevant stakeholders are engaged to maximise the impact of the Fuel Poverty strategy and action plan.	Mar-22	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	<b>Complete</b>	A meeting was held on the 27th January 2022 with a guest speaker attending from GN Group who are working with Daikin Heat Pumps and Robert Price Builders to offer a hybrid ASHP and gas boiler. The group discussed potential options for ECO 4 flex funding from 1st April onwards and progress on current Optimised Retrofit Programme schemes (ORP). Future meetings have also been extended to include colleagues from RSLs in Development Teams to share information, expertise and knowledge around energy and decarbonisation.
	Ensure, where possible, Housing Schemes that are allocated Social Housing Grant deliver energy efficient, low carbon homes.	Ongoing	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	<b>On Target</b>	There have been a further 9 schemes that have now been classed as Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) by WG taking the total for 2021/2022 to 24 schemes.
	Identify opportunities with RSLs/stakeholders for community based energy projects that include designing/building zero carbon affordable homes using local resources and labour	Ongoing	Claire Hutcheon	<b>On Target</b>	The Council continues to work with Rhondda Housing (RHA) to develop the Skyline Project. RHA are meeting with WG for concept discussion and Social Housing Grant submission in order to progress to technical scrutiny. A site visit has been undertaken with Lottery co-ordinators and pre-planning and SAB pre-application have been submitted.  The sale of Porth Infants school to Cynon Taf Community housing group has now been completed.
	Continue with existing funding and explore new opportunities for external funding to enable the on-going delivery of capital retrofitting schemes that assist with the low carbon agenda/decarbonisation of existing housing stock	Mar-22	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	<b>Complete</b>	The Council continues to work with the 6 registered ECO 3 Flex installers. The ECO 3 Flex Scheme was due to end on the 31st March 2022 and be replaced with Eco 4 Flex, however due to the delay in Eco 4 Flex the Eco Flex 3 scheme will continue until this is ready from WG. Current delivery will remain the same using the current Statement of Intent for eligibility. Discussions in place with Cardiff City Region for a regional Statement of Intent and/or delivery of the scheme.  Using funding from the Western Power Community Matters Fund, 2 staff have undertaken City & Guilds Energy Awareness training and 2 have undertaken a further course for Decarbonisation which will improve our ability to deliver Heat and Save services. The remainder of the £10k funding, to support minor energy measures, advice and training for additional staff, will be utilised in early 22/23.  The Heating Grant pilot is promoting hybrid heating systems (ASHP and gas) and these are being considered by some applicants, although as at the end of 21/22 financial year none have yet been installed. This will assist with the transition into decarbonising heating.  The Minor Assistance Grant (£10k) has had £7k committed by Q4 assisting households with low level energy measures and also assistance for draught proofing to improve warmth.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
Identify the need for affordable housing provision across RCT	To produce a Local Housing Market Assessment 2022/23 - 2027/28 that will provide a robust, evidence base to inform the RCT housing strategy and the local development plan and its policies. It will also be used as a tool for determining housing mix, affordable housing provision in new developments and allocating social housing grants	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Target Missed	External contractors ORS completed the Local Housing Market Assessment. Housing Strategy have reviewed the document and some minor amendments are being undertaken prior to the document being presented to Cabinet in 2022/23. Revised completion date September 22.
<b>Ensure that new housing and commercial developments include solar, where feasible, and have the capability to generate, store and use renewable energy onsite</b>					
Support an increase in renewable energy usage in new housing across RCT	Explore opportunities to ensure that new housing developments include renewable energy technologies to support properties to be not reliant on grid	Mar-22	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	Complete	The Council continues to work with Development Teams in local Housing Associations to raise standards of new homes above current Building Regulations. Integrated Care Funding has been received for 2 units (Dan yr Allt and young person/carer accommodation). Both units are using off site modern methods of construction, with standards to EPC A using decarbonised heating sources, and it is anticipated will be completed towards the end of 2022. Dan yr Allt land is owned by Rhondda Housing Association Wales and has full planning consent but is awaiting on a revised tender update. The Council also continues to work on the Skyline and Porth Infants school projects to enable delivery, as detailed above.
Support an increase in renewable energy usage in commercial developments across RCT	Complete development of modern business units, including PV solar panels integrated into the building, at the former Coedely colliery site and market for occupation	Sep-21	Peter Mortimer	Complete	Construction of the Coedely business unit is complete and tenant in place.
	Commence construction of the new Porth Transport Hub, with integrated PV solar panels and electronic charging points for buses	Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	Complete	Design and development stages are being completed and procurement phase has been completed and a construction contractor has been appointed. The contractor has now mobilised on site and works have commenced on groundworks in preparation for the main construction phase. The final scheme will include integrated solar PV panels and electric charging points for buses
	Complete construction of small business units at Robertstown, Aberdare which contain integrated PV solar panels in the roof systems	Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	Target Missed	The Robertstown modern business units development is on site and expected to complete in Summer 2022 and will include the provision of integrated solar PV panels as part of the roofing systems
	Deliver the development of business units at the former Mayhew Chicken factory site at Trecynon, ensuring renewable energies such as integrated PV solar panels are included in the design development and submit a UK levelling up bid to support delivery of the scheme	Mar-22	Peter Mortimer	On Target	MDT appointed to develop the proposal further and design and site investigation continues to progress. Scoping concept designs of net zero carbon business units as part of the mixed use of the site. Delivery funding package is being rescoped following Levelling Up Funding first round decision not to support at that stage.
<b>Support small and medium sized house builders and self builders to develop new housing</b>					
Support local self builders and small and medium sized house builders to develop appropriate housing to meet the needs of our local communities	Support SME developers to build more homes by ensuring they are able to access available funding streams	Ongoing	Simon Gale	On Target	The Developer Forum has met during the pandemic and support has been given to two local SME developers to access the CCR Housing Investment Fund scheme. Both schemes are progressing well and are currently going through the planning process.
	Support the plot shop/self build Wales initiative, enabling local people to self-build their own homes	Ongoing	Chris Jones	On Target	Working with The Urbanists and the Development Bank of Wales to examine all Council owned land in order to progress Plot Shop. Plot Shop Working Group also looking to consider privately owned land within the scheme.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Continue to build Extra Care and specially adapted homes for elderly and vulnerable residents, develop innovative housing solutions for younger people in need, and provide suitable housing solutions for the homeless</b>					
Provide housing solutions to meet the needs of elderly and vulnerable residents	Review the approach to the provision of adapted housing supply in the County Borough	Mar-22	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	Target Missed	The draft Adapted Housing Review required a few amendments which are still in progress. The decision was made to delay the presentation of the Adapted Housing Review until after the elections, therefore this will be presented in 2022/2023
	Continue to implement the affordable warmth strategy, including piloting the new RCT Heating grant that will support the child poverty agenda	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	<p>There were a total of 237 Heat &amp; Save grant applications for the financial year, made up of 178 ECO 3 Flex applications, 19 Minor Assistance and 40 Heating Grant applications. There were a total of 69 Housing Energy Officer referrals made for the whole financial year projected total annual household savings of £15,072. 26. Events have continued in Mountain Ash and Penrhiceiber area for drop ins and talks for energy savings/assistance, along with another 6 sessions being delivered through the Cynon Valley and Pontypridd.</p> <p>A final report was received from the Arbed am Byth Scheme highlighting that £634k of WG investment was attracted into Penrhiceiber and assisted 142 homes delivering 570 energy measures. The Warm Homes programme is currently under review and no further phases are expected until post April 2023.</p> <p>A second phase of addresses have been selected in Penrhiceiber and have received a first mailer with more focused targeting to be undertaken on homes with D or below ratings. Further engagement and targeting will continue into 22-23. Hybrid heating options are also being targeted to the area.</p>
Provide support and suitable homes for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness	Develop a four year housing support plan strategy and needs assessment, setting out the strategic direction and objectives in delivering homelessness and housing related support services	Dec-21	Claire Hutcheon/ Cheryl Emery	Complete	Housing Support Programme Strategy, Needs Assessment and Statement of Need have all been completed and are currently out for consultation.
	Complete a rapid review of Homelessness across RCT	Aug-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	Rapid homelessness review completed.
	Review existing Housing First Projects to provide a new service model for single people who experience repeat homelessness with multiple support- needs including substance misuse, domestic abuse, and offending backgrounds.	Jan 22 revised Dec 22	Cheryl Emery	On Target	Funding has been secured for 2021/22 and confirmed for 2022/23. Some development work has been completed and a steering group established. Progress to date has been impacted by recruitment activity, a new project officer has now been appointed and this will now provide the capacity to progress this area of work.
	Review support arrangements for households in temporary accommodation.	Feb 22 revised Feb 23	Sue Preece/ Rachel Gronow	On Target	The revised service model and support services implemented in Q1 continues to be delivered with quarterly monitoring in place. The tender process for a new provider will be undertaken during 2022/23.
	Explore opportunities to develop 2 assessment centres each containing 15-20 units	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon/ Cheryl Emery	Complete	Unfortunately none of the sites viewed in 2021/22 were deemed suitable. The service will continue to explore further sites in 2022/23.
Develop innovative housing solutions for young people	Develop a new build (Modern Methods of Construction) 4 bedroom supported accommodation project for young people aged 16 -24 in Penygraig	Oct 21 revised to Sep 22	Sue Preece	On Target	HSG Funding has been secured, planning approval gained and a building contractor confirmed by Rhondda Housing Association. Ground works have commenced and development programme confirmed with an expected completion date of September 22.
	Develop an innovative housing scheme for young people (care leavers) aged 18-24 with complex needs, through ICF.	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon/ Katherine Tyler	Complete	Integrated Care Fund funding received for a Young Person's Unit, which is being programme managed by Children's Services and due to be completed in 2022-23.
	Explore opportunities to develop 2 supported Housing Schemes for young people aged 18 - 24 years, who are ready to live independently.	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon/ Cheryl Emery	Complete	The Hughes Street (Tonypandy), Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) development with RHA utilising Phase 2 Homelessness Funding continues to progress with a planned completion date of Jun-22.

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Continue to bring back empty properties back into use through a range of interventions and support</b>					
Increase the scale of empty homes being brought back into use	Continue to implement the RCT Empty Homes strategy and action plan and monitor progress quarterly through the Empty Homes Working group	Ongoing	Derek James/ Claire Hutcheon	Target Missed	A decision was made in Q4 to delay the development of the new RCT Empty Homes Strategy until the most up to date empty homes data is available, this will allow the service to analyse the impact of the current strategy and focus on new initiatives for the developing strategy if required. The impact of Covid will need to be accounted for, as well as the increase in house prices and inflationary pressures. New target for completion July 2022. The action plan for the current strategy is ongoing and Empty Homes Working Group continues to monitor progress.
	Complete an Empty Homes Report and present to SLT evidencing the impact of the council over the past 2 years to bring empty homes back into use	Aug-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	Report complete and presented to SLT and will now be presented to Cabinet.
	Evaluate the impact of the Valleys Taskforce Empty Homes Grant Scheme that ended on the 31st March 2021	Sep 21 Revised Mar 23	Claire Hutcheon	On Target	There are currently 488 valid applications (reduction due to cancellations), 263 (54%) applications are in RCT. 273 homes across the VTF areas have now been brought back into use through the grant, 163 (60%) of these are in RCT. The remaining 215 homes aim to be brought back into use throughout 2022 however, due to Covid-19 related delays and issues, WG have confirmed that RCT can continue with the scheme until the end of March 2023, ensuring that the grant outcomes can be met. The current grant commitment is £7.06M of which, £4.24million (60%) is committed for RCT residents.
	Implement and monitor the RCT Empty Homes Grant Scheme to support home owners to bring empty properties back into use, the grant also offers home owners the opportunity to use the grant towards renewable energy measures to make the home more energy efficient	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	There are currently 69 valid applications progressing. A budget of £1.645M was fully allocated, however there have since been some grant cancellations due to Covid-19, predominantly due to the availability of contractors, materials and cost increases in materials. Any surplus funding will be carried over in to the next financial year and any future EHG schemes. Between the 18th of October 2021 and the 31st March 2022 306 expressions of interest have been received, showing a huge demand for the grant.
Increase the scale of empty homes being brought back into use	Continue to implement and monitor the Houses into Homes loans which is specifically aimed at bringing empty properties back into residential use	Mar-22	Claire Hutcheon	Complete	During Q4, 2 Houses into Homes Loans have been completed and a further 5 Houses into Homes loans have been approved during Q4. This will support 7 empty properties to be brought back into use, whilst also creating an additional 14 units of accommodation (Flats). In addition, 23 information packs were sent out to applicants showing an interest in the scheme and 9 loans were repaid. In total during 2021/2022 11 loans have been completed, totalling a loan amount of £275k and creating 14 units of accommodation
<b>Continuing to support responsible local landlords and agents to ensure we have a good quality, affordable private rented sector. We will maintain our targeted enforcement approach against bad landlords and unsafe rented housing, maximising the Council's regulatory intervention powers to improve housing conditions</b>					
Provide support to local landlords to support a good quality private rented sector	Improve the support offered to landlords to improve tenancy sustainability through recruiting support workers to provide a dedicated service for the private rented sector	Jun-21	Susan Preece	Complete	3 Private Rented Sector workers have been successfully recruited, 1 worker for each locality of Rhondda, Cynon and Taf. The service went live on the 17th May 21
	Continue to deliver the RCT landlord forum and newsletter to support local landlords to provide good quality, affordable private sector homes	Ongoing	Claire Hutcheon	On Target	The Landlord Forum took place on 23rd February with great success with 41 landlords in attendance. The newsletter was well received, with the next issue due May 11th 2022 which will advertise the next forum to take place on June 15th 2022. The current online format seems to be working very well at the moment, however there have been discussions around possibly bringing the forum back to Pontypridd Rugby Club (face to face). Regular communication regarding housing information has been shared with landlords through email and social media platforms.
Implement the RCTCBC Social Housing Letting Agency to enhance housing options and provide affordable accommodation for homeless households in the private rented sector	Launch the social housing letting agency scheme and promote publicly	May-21	Jodie Warburton	Complete	Scheme regularly promoted via social media, landlord forum and newsletter. First properties have been signed up and tenanted with additional properties at the grant/inspection stage.
	Monitor and evaluate the social housing letting agency scheme to ensure long term financial sustainability	Jan-22	Cheryl Emery	Complete	Funding secured for the implementation of national roll out

<b>Council Priority:</b>	<b>PROSPERITY - <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to be innovative, be entrepreneurial and fulfil their potential and prosper</i></b>
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<b>Commitments linked to this Council priority</b>	<b>5 - There will be a broad offer of skills and employment programmes for all ages</b>
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<b>Delivery Actions</b>	<b>Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action</b>	<b>Delivery Date</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Overall progress to date on Action</b>
<b>Work with partners to provide employment support, utilising remaining European Funding</b>					
Support residents to develop skills for employment and progression	Review current Employment Support grant funded programmes, CfW, CfW+ and commissioned current provision to ensure there is support available to help people find work, developing a blend of provision that can be offered both remotely/online as well as face to face	Jun-21	Nicola Lewis	Complete	More face-to-face delivery being undertaken, however, a mix with online delivery continues where this has proved effective. Delivery will be reviewed quarterly to ensure clients are getting appropriate support
	Work with local employers to identify local employment opportunities and to support the expansion of 'In Work Support' provision to help people already in work develop into more secure or more skilled roles	Mar-22	Nicola Lewis	Complete	In work' support referral pathways well established now and increasing, with 52 new engagements for in work support this quarter. Access to Personal Learning Accounts promoted and clients offered access to training provision on current programme and linking with Employment Liaison Officer identified job opportunities if alternative employment being sought. Support offered in March to TTP staff at risk of redundancy.
	Continue to provide targeted employability and essential skills courses, ensuring this meets the new Community Learning requirements set out by Welsh Government	Sep-21	Heulyn Rees	Complete	A plan has been agreed with Communities 4 work plus to identify and target a new group of learners. Provision is monitored on an ongoing basis.
	Review the current Employment and Skills Strategy 2019 - 21 to take account of recent and planned local and national developments	Mar-22	Wendy Edwards	Target Missed	There remains a lack of clarity about some national developments that will impact on employment and skills. This work will continue over the coming months as national programmes are confirmed and potential gaps in provision and priorities can be addressed with confidence.
	Deliver two virtual careers fairs, working with stakeholders to plan events and establishing a structure & format for each employer to showcase the opportunities they can offer	Sep-21	Sian Woolson	Complete	Second virtual careers fair held on 22nd September.
	Identify future funding opportunities for employment support programmes	Dec 21 revised June 22	Nicola Lewis	Not on Target	UK Government delays in publishing ESF follow on funding have resulted in delays, with Shared Prosperity Fund detail not available until April 2022. RCT Cabinet have approved a regional approach to Employment and Skills funding. The RCT element of the CELT regional employment programme has expressed interest to extend to September.
	<b>Offering employment schemes and apprenticeships in the Council, on the regeneration sites, and through other Council contractors</b>				
Continue to support a range of work experience, apprenticeship and training opportunities across Council services	Explore the potential to develop a virtual work experience programme in the Council, providing opportunities for people to undertake virtual placements in Council services	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	Complete	Films have been produced with various service areas across the Council which give an insight into different careers available. This work will continue to be expanded on an ongoing basis.
	Continue to offer apprenticeship and graduate opportunities within the Council across a wide variety of areas	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	Complete	28 Apprentices and 18 Graduates commenced employment with the Council on the 6th September. In the next round of recruitment, a further 16 graduate posts have been filled; graduates will commence employment on 6th June and 5th September 22. 38 new apprenticeship opportunities were advertised in April/May.
	Ensure apprenticeship and training opportunities are made available on all Council regeneration schemes	Mar-22	Derek James Peter Mortimer	Complete	This approach has successfully been developed as part of the development and delivery of major regeneration investments such as Llys Cadwyn, Coedely and Robertstown as part of agreed Community Benefit Plans with appointed contractors. This will be further developed on major projects currently in development such as the Porth Transport Hub

Delivery Actions	Milestones/Sub Actions that will help to achieve overarching Action	Delivery Date	Responsible Officer	Progress to date	Overall progress to date on Action
<b>Offering specific support to help people find work such as care leavers, people with disabilities and Universal Credit claimants</b>					
Review current Employment Support grant funded programmes and commissioned provision to ensure there is specific support offered to help people find work	Work with partners and other specialist organisations to specifically target and engage with groups of clients who have a work limiting health condition, disability or learning difficulty to increase referrals into employment support programmes	Sep-21	Nicola Lewis	Complete	CfW and CfW+ staff have received 'Disability Awareness' training. Ongoing attendance at Transformation Group and staff also attending WG's all Wales Disability Network meetings and providing feedback on progress.
	Implement the Kickstart scheme, providing opportunities for young people who are unemployed to gain workplace experience, and support local employers to apply for funding	Jun-21	Nicola Lewis	Complete	Rolling programme of applications being made to DWP for employers in RCT to obtain funding for Kickstart opportunities. An update on the Kickstart programme was provided to Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee on 2nd February 2022 <a href="https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=169&amp;MId=50003738&amp;Ver=4&amp;LLL=0">https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=169&amp;MId=50003738&amp;Ver=4&amp;LLL=0</a>
	Review contracts for commissioned provision through the legacy grant to include activities that have a focus on engaging specific/targeted groups of clients	Jun-21	Nicola Lewis	Complete	
	Identify, develop and/or commission in work learning and training programmes for specific/targeted groups of clients e.g. disabilities, learning difficulties.	Jun-21	Nicola Lewis	Complete	
Facilitate meaningful work placements in the Council to provide specific support to help people gain work experience and training	Provide opportunities in the Council for young people who are unemployed to gain workplace experience through the Kickstart scheme	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	Complete	The Kickstart programme ended in March. 21 young people have been employed on kickstart placements by the Council, with several going on to secure permanent positions afterwards.
	Continue to deliver Step in the Right Direction and Care 2 work schemes to support young people leaving care to identify career paths and develop their skills	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	Complete	Six trainees began their Step in the Right Direction programme in March. The next intake is planned for September 2022.
	Continue to deliver Gateway to employment placements to support people with learning disabilities to develop work related skills	Mar-22	Sian Woolson	Complete	Four young people have undertaken placements with RCT Council this year, with the next intake planned for September 2022.
<b>Promoting apprenticeships across the County Borough, and supporting businesses to make use of the apprenticeship levy</b>					
Promote the benefits of apprenticeships and traineeships to local businesses	Work with Business Improvement Districts to promote the apprenticeship levy & kickstart scheme	Ongoing	Darren Notley	On Target	Supported Treorchy BID to recruit Kickstart placement to assist with communications and marketing. Communities for Work Plus (CFW+) team attended recent Aberdare BID Board meeting to promote services. Arrangements made to introduce CFW+ staff to newly appointed Treorchy BID Manager with a view to attending future BID Board meeting to promote work placement and apprenticeship opportunities. The new CRF funded CORE Business Solutions Centre is due to open shortly in Aberdare town centre and arrangements have been made for CFW+ staff to hold regular surgeries at the centre to provide advice and support to both employers and job seekers with a view to improving employment opportunities and outcomes for local people.
<b>Continuing to support working parents back into employment through the Welsh Government's 30 Hours Childcare offer</b>					
Enable eligible families to access and benefit from the childcare offer for Wales	Ensure that the childcare offer is marketed and administered effectively and continues to meet local demand	Ongoing	Andrea Richards/ Denise Humphries	On Target	The Childcare Offer is promoted via social media, website, email and telephone communications, and via childcare providers. The website has been updated to ensure that all relevant information is easily available to parents. A timetable of face to face engagement events has been planned from April 2022 onwards. This includes attendance at Parent & toddler groups and information stands in public spaces such as libraries and leisure centres. The Teddy Bears Picnic will take place this year after being cancelled for the last two years. This is the main engagement and promotion event as its target audience are families with children of pre-school age. Officers are working with WG to develop and promote the new national, digital system. The launch of this has been delayed from Sept 2022 to Jan 2023.