

	Strategic Task	Context
Environment	<p>Deliver Rushcliffe's Climate Change Strategy 2021-2030.</p> <p>Playing our part in tackling climate change and protecting and enhancing nature conservation in the Borough.</p>	<p>The Council has set a target of being carbon neutral in its own operations by 2030. It recognises that the environment is of great importance to residents in Rushcliffe and that whilst the changes the Council can make as a local authority are small, its responsibility as a community leader could result in a compounding effect in which small changes add up to a much bigger impact.</p> <p>This task is about delivering our Climate Change Strategy which focuses on three key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council – Reducing the emission associated with our own buildings and activities. • Conservation – Protecting and increasing our green spaces. • Community – Supporting residents and businesses to reduce their emissions.
Environment	<p>Implement the Environment Act commitments</p> <p>Fulfilling our obligations as a Local Authority to make environmental improvements in relation to waste, resource efficiency, air quality, water, nature and biodiversity, and conservation</p>	<p>The Council has a legal obligation to comply with relevant legislation. A new Environment Act is expected to reach Royal Assent at some point during 2023 bringing with it a range of new commitments for the Council.</p> <p>The Environment Act is likely to include the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doorstep weekly food waste collections for all households • Changes to the items that can be recycled in the Council's kerbside wheeled bin recycling service to achieve national consistency • A national deposit return scheme for plastic bottles • A potentially free to all garden waste kerbside collection • Restrictions on the use of domestic burning appliances in new Smoke Control Areas. • Introduction of a Biodiversity Net Gain Duty <p>Based on known information from the government we are already working behind the scenes to consider the impact of the expected changes and consider how we will approach implementation</p>

		including timescales for each element or requirement. This includes working with key groups such as the Nottingham Joint Waste Management Committee
Efficient Services	Deliver good value for money in Council operations for our residents.	<p>A combination of Government funding reductions and uncertainty over future funding, the impact of Covid and more recently high inflation has placed significant pressure on both Council finances and maintaining excellent services. It remains important for the Council to be financially self-sufficient and demonstrate value for money in all areas of operation.</p> <p>Each year of this Corporate Strategy, the Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver a balanced budget and the Council's with an accompanying Transformation and Efficiency Programme • adequately resource the Council's Capital Programme commitments, which must be affordable, sustainable and prudent • sets Council Tax that keeps Rushcliffe in the lowest quartile nationally • receive a positive value for money conclusion from the Council's external auditor
Efficient Services	<p>Participate in an LGA Corporate Peer Challenge and implement recommendations.</p> <p>Ensuring we continue to operate effectively and deliver great quality services for our residents, by inviting an external review and</p>	<p>The Council wishes to remain a high performing, well respected local authority that delivers the services its residents need, whilst maintaining financial self-sufficiency. To do this, we periodically invite the Local Government Association (LGA) to conduct a Peer Review. This review will identify what we are doing well, but most importantly what we could be doing better.</p> <p>The LGA Peer Review team will visit Rushcliffe in January 2024. After this we will receive a report with a number of recommendations of ways that we could improve. These recommendations will form the basis of our action plan, which we will commit to delivering.</p>

	implementing recommendations.	
Efficient Services	<p>Conduct a Strategic review of the Council's asset base.</p> <p>Ensuring we understand the value and purpose of our assets including property, equipment and vehicles and can make informed decisions about what to do with them e.g invest in them or dispose of them.</p>	<p>The Council needs to ensure that all of our assets are working for the benefit of the Borough.</p> <p>The Council's assets fall into three distinct categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • property assets including those that are bought by the Council as an investment (to generate income to fund Council services as well as providing support for businesses through the provision of space that is not often available/limited availability in the commercial market), and those which are built or purchased by the Council to use for our own operations, • community assets including community halls and children's play areas • vehicles, equipment and plant including the Council's fleet of refuse vehicles, street cleansing and grounds maintenance equipment. <p>The Council will review these three categories of assets and make informed decisions about acquisitions, disposals and investment.</p>
Sustainable Growth	<p>Support the redevelopment of the Ratcliffe on Soar site, post decommissioning of the power station.</p>	<p>The power station, owned by Uniper, will close at the end of September 2024 in line with government policy to end coal-fired power generation.</p> <p>The power station is an important landmark, employer and business rates payer in the Borough.</p> <p>The site has the potential to be redeveloped in the best interest of the Borough and wider region, leveraging international investment to pioneer zero-carbon technology, sustainable and low-carbon energy production creating thousands of high skilled, well-paid jobs.</p> <p>RBC's involvement includes:</p>

	<p>Ensuring that, post decommissioning of the power station, the site makes a positive contribution to the Borough and the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping to shape plans as they develop through our role on the board of the East Midlands Development Corporation • Helping to shape plans as they develop as a key partner of the East Midlands Freeport • Processing detailed planning applications for the site • Actively advising on financial elements of the business plan and in particular the impact of Business rates in relation to RBC and the processing of business rates relief claims and passporting of related funds to the Freeport
Sustainable Growth	<p>Implement Levelling up and Regeneration Bill commitments</p> <p>Fulfilling our obligations as a Local Authority to adopt reforms, primarily to the planning system, facilitating more local decision making.</p>	<p>The Council has a legal obligation to comply with relevant legislation. A new Levelling up and Regeneration Bill is expected in the next year, which seeks to change the way powers can be devolved to local authorities and introduces reform to the planning system in England.</p> <p>Once the bill receives Royal Assent and becomes an act, there will a significant number of new regulations brought in relating to the planning process which we will have to implement.</p> <p>The Council will need to consider any new regulations that come forward and determine an approach for adopting them.</p> <p>We are already working behind the scenes to consider the impact of the expected changes but it is not possible to precisely foresee what might be included in the final legislation.</p>
Sustainable Growth	<p>Adopt a revised Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Setting out a vision for future development in the</p>	<p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan (GNSP) will play a large part in determining what Rushcliffe looks and feels like in 2041. It is a tool we can use to make sure Rushcliffe remains a place where are residents are happy to live.</p> <p>The GNSP is important as it fundamentally shapes the development that takes place in Rushcliffe (including type, scale and design quality), where and what infrastructure is required to support that</p>

	Borough, which will be used to decide future planning applications and other significant planning decisions.	development. Once adopted, any planning application which is considered by the Council will need to demonstrate it is in line with GNSP if it is to receive planning permission.
Sustainable Growth	<p>Support the delivery of the new employment sites and new homes, including meeting our affordable housing targets, at key sites including Fairham, Gamston, RAF Newton and Bingham.</p> <p>Providing the right amount, quality and mix of housing and employment sites to ensure the Borough remains a</p>	<p>The UK Government has set a target of 13,500 new homes in the Borough by 2030. The Local Plan Part 1 allocated key sites within the Borough to facilitate this level of development.</p> <p>The Council now need to support and facilitate the delivery of these key sites, as this puts us in a much stronger position to safeguard against unwanted development in other areas.</p> <p>In addition each housing allocation has an allocation of employment land sitting alongside it, reflecting the fact that with new residents there is a need for new employment/business opportunities.</p> <p>Our role in meeting this target of 13,500 new homes involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating and supporting co-operation and delivery on larger development sites • Ensuring there is funding for required infrastructure on these key sites via CIL and S106 agreements • Receiving and determining planning applications on these key sites • CIL and S106 – initial agreements to fund infrastructure • Working with relevant developers and agents to explore opportunities for accelerating delivery of our employment land allocations

	place people want to live and work.	
Sustainable Growth	<p>Develop and deliver an economic growth strategy for the Borough.</p> <p>Ensuring that our local economy remains productive, innovative and sustainable.</p>	<p>A thriving local economy benefits our residents economically, socially and environmentally. It means access to quality jobs within the Borough and to a diverse range of places to shop, eat and drink, and socialise.</p> <p>To ensure that our local economy remains thriving, we will develop and deliver an economic growth strategy for the Borough. This strategy will help us to better understand the diversity of local economies across the Borough and identify where we need to focus our efforts and resources to help businesses build resilience, adapt to new opportunities and improve productivity.</p>

<p>Quality of Life</p>	<p>Be an active partner in the delivery of the East Midlands Devolution Deal.</p> <p>Ensuring that Rushcliffe is represented and benefits, as plans progress for a combined authority for the East Midlands</p>	<p>The East Midlands Devolution Deal will create the first ever Combined County Authority and is expected to bring an extra £38 million a year to the East Midlands from 2024, addressing years of historically low investment in the area.</p> <p>The deal also involves the devolving of some powers from a national to a regional level, with the election of a regional Mayor for the East Midlands.</p> <p>The Council believes it is important to be part of this monumental piece of work which will change the way decisions are made locally. This is an opportunity to champion the ability of district councils as well as be part of the process to shape the future combined authority.</p>
<p>Quality of Life</p>	<p>Deliver Rushcliffe's leisure strategy 2021-2027.</p> <p>Making sure that our leisure facilities continue to meet the needs of our residents, over the next four years and beyond.</p>	<p>The Council's excellent leisure facilities are one of the many reasons why the Borough is such as fantastic and well-regarded place to live. The successful delivery of our Leisure Strategy will ensure that our leisure facilities and associated spaces continue to be both high quality and financially sustainable to support our residents to enjoy healthy, active lives over the next four years and beyond</p> <p>Delivery of the leisure strategy is expected to include capital improvements to a number of our leisure centres, including work to improve their carbon footprint.</p>