



Craven District Council Council Plan 2018 – 2021

Approved February 2018
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***Craven District Council
Council Plan
2018 – 2021***

A message from the Council Leader and Chief Executive



Welcome to the Council Plan 2018 – 2021.

The Plan explains the Council's future priorities for improving the services it offers Craven's communities and their residents. It spans three financial years commencing 1 April 2018, but is reviewed annually to reflect any changes in and additions to our priorities over that period.

The Council believes the priorities and actions set out in the plan will have the most positive impact upon the lives of residents, and those who work in or visit Craven. We will of course continue to deliver the many other services we provide that are not featured as part of our priorities set out in the Plan.

Richard Foster
Council Leader

The Council continues to successfully manage budget cuts by finding significant savings and generating additional income. A balanced budget of £6.789 million has been set for 2018/19, which includes a further £185,010 of savings and income.

This means that services delivered by Craven District Council will cost the Craven taxpayer just £3.22 a week in 2018/19.*

The delivery of the Council Plan is vital in meeting more demanding government targets and balancing our budget in the face of continued cuts in Government funding. If we succeed Council taxpayers will benefit even more.

Your Council hopes you will support its Members and staff in their efforts to bring about the required changes.



Paul Shevlin
Chief Executive

*Based on average Band D Council Tax of £167.21

What your Council does for you

The Council provides a wide range of services and facilities throughout the Craven District.

We provide all the below and more to our communities for just £3.22 a week – based on average Band D Council Tax.



Settle Tourist Information Centre

Business and Tourism

- Activity to support the growth of new and existing businesses across Craven
- Providing car parks across the District
- Working with partners to increase the contribution of tourism to the local economy
- Tourist Information Centres in Skipton and Settle
- Supporting the delivery of local festivals and events across Craven
- Liquor, entertainment and hackney carriage (taxi) licensing
- Food safety inspections of local restaurants and takeaways
- Working with partners to improve access to higher speed broadband

Community

- Working with local communities and supporting local voluntary and community groups such as the Friends of Aireville Park to deliver local plans and initiatives
- Community Champions Award Scheme
- Providing grants to local organisations and communities, including the Ward Member Grants
- Working in partnership to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Supporting developing dementia friendly communities across Craven
- Planning and building control services and local land charges
- Bereavement services at Waltonwrys Cemetery & Crematorium Skipton, and Ingleton Cemetery
- Public conveniences in Skipton and Settle



Community Champions Award 2017
Winners and Sponsors



Culture and Recreation

- Aireville Park in Skipton
- Activity to support the development of the arts and sport across Craven
- Craven Museum & Gallery
- Craven Leisure
- Facilities and events at Skipton Town Hall



Democracy

- Maintaining the register of elections
- Election administration for local Parish, District, County, UK Parliamentary, European Parliamentary, Police and Crime Commissioner elections and referendums
- Supporting Council Members and the Chairman of the Council to undertake their duties as democratically elected representatives
- Administering meetings of the Council's committees and Council

Environment

- Cleaning streets and public places to maintain high standards of street cleanliness
- Dealing with noise nuisance issues
- Monitoring and improving air pollution, contaminated land and flood prevention
- Collecting trade and household waste and recycling including bulky items and garden waste
- Private water supply sampling



Housing

- Homelessness and housing advice
- Providing advice on disabled adaptations and energy efficiency
- Working in partnership to increase the supply of affordable housing
- Improving private sector housing conditions for people in Craven through initiatives such as advice to homeowners, tenants and landlords, and licensing of homes in multiple occupation and
- Housing and Council Tax benefit claims service



Our Vision

'For Craven to be an increasingly prosperous place with strong, vibrant communities that celebrate their unique rural and urban settings, and where all residents enjoy a good quality of life.'

Our Values

We believe our first responsibility is to the people and communities who live in, work in or visit Craven

In serving those communities everyone within Craven District Council will:

- Treat everyone with respect
- Act with integrity and honesty
- Show commitment and flexibility
- Strive for improvement and excellence

Our values are at the heart of everything we do, they influence the way we work and help us to continually improve performance.

Our Priorities

ENTERPRISING CRAVEN - facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do:

- Enable the provision of 230 homes per year across Craven to meet the needs of our current and future communities
- Stimulate business growth
- Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES - creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do:

- Enable active communities and improve quality of life
- Create greener communities

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY - ensuring a self-sustainable Council

What we will do:

- Eliminate the reliance on Government Revenue Support Grant by 2020

ENTERPRISING CRAVEN - facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

Enable the provision of 230* homes per year across Craven to meet the needs of our current and future communities

How we will do this

- Allocate a suitable supply of land for all types of residential development and increase the supply of affordable housing

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Publication of the Local Development Plan
- Implementation of Shared Ownership Schemes to create a minimum of 45 shared ownership homes by April 2020
- Use of policies to enable the provision of 69 affordable homes per year * (30% affordable housing of 230 homes)



Stimulate business growth

How we will do this

- Enable the development of 8 hectares of new employment land by 2020

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Development of the South Skipton Employment Zone
- Creation of new employment sites in Bentham, Ingleton and Settle
- Development of employment space at Threshfield Quarry and Skipton Rock Quarry
- Undertaking activity to raise the profile of the Craven District as an attractive location for businesses



Image courtesy of R.Martlew /Threshfield Quarry Development Trust

*Figures based on Publication draft of Craven Local Plan -2nd January 2018
Council Plan 2018 - 2021

How we will do this

- Improve the quality and capacity of the transport infrastructure serving the District

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Development of Skipton Railway Station
- Lobbying for investment in the road and rail infrastructure serving the District as part of the central pennine corridor to the main roads to within the District

How we will do this

- Ensure new and existing businesses have access to, and are able to benefit from business support services

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Delivery of the Ad-Venture Enterprise Growth Programme in collaboration with partners
- Continuing with the role of SME Growth Manager in collaboration with Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership
- Delivery of the Digital Enterprise Business Support Programme in collaboration with partners
- Support for delivery of the Yorkshire Dales LEADER Programme

How we will do this

- Ensure all businesses and residents in Craven have access to a high quality broadband connection by 2020

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Support for the delivery of Broadband Delivery UK funded activity through the Superfast North Yorkshire programme
- Working with businesses and communities to support delivery of alternative broadband technologies including wireless and fibre to the home network
- Investigation and delivery of municipal Wi-Fi networks in market towns



Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages

How we will do this

- Enhance the quality of the trading environment within the District's core retail centres

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Development and delivery of actions plans for Bentham, Cross Hills, Ingleton and Settle
- Working with partners to support delivery of the Skipton (BID) Business Improvement District



Street scene Settle



Street scene Bentham

How we will do this

- Improve access to and enjoyment of Craven's great heritage and culture



Skipton Town Hall

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Development of Skipton Town Hall into a vibrant cultural community venue
- Delivery of the Access Development Plan for the Leeds & Liverpool Canal

How we will do this

- Collaborate with partners to attract more working age households to the District

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Delivery of the Great Place Scheme
- Development and delivery of a rural housing scheme

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

- creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Enable active communities and improve quality of life

How we will do this

- Reduce health and wellbeing inequalities

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Supporting the new models of care programme being developed by the Accountable Care Board, a cross sector partnership involving partners across health, social care, the voluntary sector, Craven District and North Yorkshire County Council
- Identifying and implementing a range of projects to reduce health inequalities, including supporting the development of Dementia Friendly Craven
- Working with partners to provide improved support and intervention services for rough sleepers and those at risk of sleeping rough

How we will do this

- Enable community groups across the District to achieve their ambitions

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Delivering the Member ward grant programme launched in 2016
- Providing support to a range of community groups across the District and facilitating community projects including working with the Friends of Aireville Park (FOAP) to fundraise for a new playground
- Maximising the use of Planning Gain to provide funding for community projects



Create greener communities

How we will do this

- Reduce waste to landfill and increase re-use and recycling

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Promoting and increasing take up of the Council's commercial recycling scheme
- Encouraging residents to recycle more of their household waste to achieve household recycling targets and maximise income from recycled waste
- Exploring the option of a joint waste authority with North Yorkshire Partners



How we will do this

- Make Craven's public spaces cleaner, safer and greener

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Working with relevant agencies to implement the powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to better protect communities from anti-social behaviour.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY - ensuring a self-sustainable Council

What we will do

Eliminate the reliance on Government Revenue Support Grant by 2020

How we will do this

- Ensure expenditure is prioritised, regularly reviewed and reflects resident's priorities

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Reviewing and implementing the Council's Long Term Financial Strategy 2018/2022
- Undertaking a budget consultation with residents and stakeholders



How we will do this

- Improve the Council's commercial acumen and generating additional income

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Implementing the Council's Income and Savings Plan
- Exploring and exploiting opportunities to the Council presented through devolution

How we will do this

- Maximise the Council's assets for the long term sustainability of the Council and the District

Key delivery mechanisms include:

- Implementing the Council's Acquisition and Regeneration Investment Strategy to provide a framework for the acquisition of property assets to improve the well-being of the District
- Implementing key projects in the Asset Management Plan
- Delivering a range of schemes through our Joint Venture Company to make best use of Council owned marginal land sites to support regeneration and growth across the District



If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone 01756 700600.

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