

# Strategy for Growth Action Plan

May 2013 version



## **Devon County Council Strategy for Growth Action Plan May 2013 version**

This Action Plan supports the Devon County Council Strategy for Growth. It brings together existing and new projects and is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all activities that are focused on delivering economic growth in Devon. Rather it is a selection of key actions across the council that have the potential to deliver the greatest impact. Other projects and programmes mentioned in the strategy will also deliver economic growth.

It is proposed to review the action plan on an annual basis and to engage with lead services across the council to review delivery and develop key milestones. As such the action plan will be dynamic and capable of responding to change.



Priority	Reason	Programme	Actions	Location	Lead	Timescale
A more productive economy	Increasing productivity will lead to high wage levels and a thriving business environment.	Employment Space – Devon work hub network	Continue to extend the network across Devon including working with libraries as incubator spaces	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise; Services for Communities	Ongoing
		Rural Growth Network	Provide business support through the roll out of this DEFRA funded initiative	Rural Devon	Economy and Enterprise	March 2015
		Smart Specialisation Strategy	Devon approach to creation of a strategy and action plan, prior to engagement with partners across the Heart of The South West LEP area.	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	Oct 2013
A higher wage economy		Inward Investment	Targeted marketing campaigns to attract businesses to relocate to Devon. Provision of a relocation service to businesses	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	March 2014
	Working to increase wages across the economy	Sectors for Growth	Develop a support package for high value growth sectors including specific infrastructure and locational requirements. Develop a coordinated approach with planning colleagues across Devon	Devon wide and site specific	Planning and transport	March 2014
		Sectors for Growth	Understand barriers to growing key sectors and develop programmes to assist businesses	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	March 2014



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A workforce with the right skills and employment opportunities for the future	A higher skilled workforce will be able to access higher waged employment	Skills Action Plan	<p>Work to implement the priority actions identified in the skills action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence and leadership</li> <li>• Support for business</li> <li>• Support for Young People</li> <li>• Support for the Unemployed</li> </ul>	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise; Education and Learning; Services for Communities; Procurement	April 2013 to March 2016
		Career Foster Carers	Implement the Career Foster Carers initiative as part of the Fostering Service redesign	Devon wide	Social Care	March 2014
		Skills and workforce development within the social care sector	Work to identify skills needs within the sector and promote social care as a career option to young people	Devon wide	Social Care; Economy and Enterprise	March 2014
		Further education strategy	<p>Work with districts and providers to identify the nature and scope of additional University Technical College (UTC) provision within Devon.</p> <p>Develop partnership arrangements with Exeter University, Plymouth University etc to establish a Strategy</p>	Teignbridge; Torrington; North Devon	Planning and Transport; Economy and Enterprise	March 2014
		Digital inclusion	Support for job seekers and ensuring people have the skills to access services via the internet	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise; Adult Community Learning	March 2017

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A well connected County	Access to markets is a major factor in driving productivity	Transportation networks	Ensure Infrastructure Delivery Plans (IDPs) are in place for all districts and develop capital programmes (CIL and other) for immediate scheme investment	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	March 2014
			Bid for strategic funding focused on unlocking economic development and guided by the Strategy for Growth	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
			Continue planning and lobbying activities to achieve a second strategic route along the A30/A303 with dualling and improvements from Ilminster to Honiton	East Devon	Planning and Transport; Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		Devon Cycle Network	Continue to maintain and extend the Devon Cycle Network	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
		South Devon Link Road	Oversee contract to build the South Devon Link Road	Teignbridge	WEATS	December 2015
			Work to secure the economic benefits of the South Devon Link Road	Teignbridge	Economy and Enterprise; Planning and Transport	December 2015
		Renewable Energy	Develop a Devon wide approach to wind and solar energy. Identify opportunities arising from wave power. Assess Devon's resource potential; develop a coordinated approach and common strategy (through the Duty to Cooperate)	Devon wide	Planning and Transport; Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing

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		District Heating Schemes	Using the model developed within the Exeter and East Devon Growth Point, investigate options for supporting further schemes and a public sector ESCo model	Devon wide	WEATS; Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		Connecting Devon and Somerset – Superfast Broadband	Work with partners to ensure a smooth roll out of fibre optic broadband across Devon	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	March 2017
		Supporting Growth for Barnstaple/Bideford	Work with partners to develop proposals for creating an economic hub around Barnstaple/Bideford	Torrige/North Devon	Planning and Transport; Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		Supporting Growth in Tiverton and Newton Abbot	Support growth ambitions in Tiverton by planning for transport improvements	Mid Devon	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
		Exeter and East Devon Growth Point	Work with partners to advance developments in the Exeter and East Devon Growth Point area	Exeter, East Devon, Teignbridge	Economy and Enterprise; Planning and Transport; WEATS	Ongoing
		Exeter Science Park	Continue to work with partners as part of the Exeter Science Park Company to build the Science Park Centre	East Devon	Economy and Enterprise	March 2015
<b>A thriving business Community</b>	A thriving business community will deliver better paid jobs and productivity	Devon Minerals Plan	Realise the potential of national and internationally important minerals; Secure the supply of minerals for the local economy; safeguard resources for the future	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing

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		Duty to support the provision of business information to Local Planning Authorities	Work with the LEP to provide business data and insight	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
		Connecting Devon and Somerset – Get Up to Speed programme	Work with partners to deliver business support activities to encourage businesses to take up superfast broadband	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	March 2017
		Procurement Services: supplier engagement initiatives	Deliver a range of initiatives to encourage local businesses to bid for contracts to be let by Devon County Council	Devon wide	Procurement	Ongoing
		Rural Growth Network	Support for rural businesses including targeted interventions for women led enterprise	Rural Devon	Economy and Enterprise	March 2015
		DCC Estates Strategy	Further develop the Devon Centres model as a key economic driver in town centres	Devon wide	Business Transformation Unit	Ongoing
		Retention of Business rates	Work with planning authorities to maximise business growth	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
		Community Infrastructure Levy	Work with district authorities to ensure CIL schedules are aligned to the Strategy for Growth where possible	Devon wide	Planning and Transport	Ongoing
		Devon Trading Standards – Business Support Team	Provide regulatory support and assistance to businesses	Devon wide	Devon Trading Standards	Ongoing

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		Supported employment (Market Development)	Develop a provider market within Devon for services aimed at helping people with disabilities gain the skills they need to access employment.	Devon wide	Procurement; Integrated Children's Services and Adult Care Management	Ongoing
<b>Intelligence, Leadership and Influence</b>	Actions to realise priorities will only succeed if the Council is able to exert leadership and influence, supported by a solid evidence base	Heart of the South West LEP	Priorities contained within the Strategy for Growth are reflected in LEP Strategy and Business Plan  Ensure links are made between the Strategy for Growth and the LEP EU Prospectus	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise; Finance	Ongoing
		Enterprise Zones	Explore possibilities with district partners for Enterprise Zones, potentially in Exeter/East Devon and Barnstaple/ Bideford, Newton Abbot and Tiverton	Exeter, East Devon, Barnstaple, Bideford and Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		City/County Deals	Explore the potential for a County Deal within Devon and work with Plymouth City Council in support of their City Deal bid	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		Evidence Base	Continue to maintain and update the evidence base. Undertake activities to monitor progress in relation to delivering the Strategy for Growth	Devon wide	Economy and Enterprise	Ongoing
		Funding opportunities	Identify funding opportunities both at an EU and national level to support deliver of the Strategy for Growth	Devon Wide	Council wide	Ongoing