

# LDC Productivity Plan 2024

Leader of the Council

Date: June 2024  
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Key Decision? YES  
Local Ward All  
Members



Lichfield  
District Council

## Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In April this year, the council received a letter from Simon Hoare MP, Minister for Local Government, reflecting the request to produce Productivity Plans set out in the Local Government Finance Settlement and setting out some guidance along with the timeframes for Lichfield District Council, along with the rest of our sector, to submit our first iterations of the plan.
- 1.2 This report presents the draft Productivity Plan for the council.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To provide comments and feedback on the draft Productivity Plan the 'Lichfield District Council Productivity Plan 2024' in advance of it being considered by Cabinet in July 2024.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has identified a priority to review productivity across all public services and local government. On 24 January 2024, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published details of additional funding which councils could expect in the final Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS). As part of this announcement, the Government asked all local authorities to publish a productivity plan before summer recess setting out how they will 'improve service performance and reduce wasteful expenditure'.
- 3.2 The council received a letter from the Minister for Local Government dated 16 April 2024 (Appendix 1), setting out the beginning of that process and a deadline for a plan to be submitted, albeit without any guidance over what the plan should look like or how it should be structured, by 19 July 2024.
- 3.3 Leadership Team has considered the letter and the questions it suggested should be considered in developing a local productivity plan, and has developed a draft plan for submission. The draft plan is attached at Appendix 2. Comments and feedback are sought from Overview and Scrutiny Committee, prior to the plan being considered at Cabinet in July.
- 3.4 Due to the announcement of a General Election on 4 July, Lichfield District Council has moved its next Cabinet Meeting to avoid the pre-election period. As such Cabinet are now not meeting until after the 19 July deadline. Given the General Election, and the impact on local government, we would expect that there will be flexibility concerning the deadline. However if not, the Committee's comments and

feedback will be shared with Cabinet outside of its formal meeting, and a revised plan will be approved via a Cabinet Member Decision.

Alternative Options	None
Consultation	Feedback and comments are sought from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
Financial Implications	The Medium Term Financial Strategy included c(£100,000) in 2024/25 of additional funding from the Final Local Government Finance Settlement.
Approved by Section 151 Officer	Yes
Legal Implications	Not Applicable
Approved by Monitoring Officer	Yes
Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan	1. Being a Better Council Programme
Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications	1. None
EIA logged by Equalities Officer	No
Crime & Safety Issues	1. There are no crime and safety issues arising from this paper.
Data assessment	Not applicable
Environmental Impact (including Climate Change and Biodiversity).	1. Not applicable
GDPR / Privacy Impact Assessment	1. There are no GDPR/privacy implications arising specifically from this report.

	Risk Description & Risk Owner	Original Score (RYG)	How We Manage It	Current Score (RYG)
A	Productivity Plans could be used as part of the process for allocating future Local Government Funding	Likelihood: Yellow Impact: Yellow Severity of Risk: Yellow	The Council will submit a Productivity Plan to comply with the Government's requirement.  To assess the implications of proposed changes and respond to consultations to attempt to influence the policy direction in the Council's favour	Likelihood: Green Impact: Yellow Severity of Risk: Yellow

B	The concept of Productivity Plans could be withdrawn, or requirements significantly updated with any change in Government	Likelihood: Yellow Impact: Yellow Severity of Risk: Yellow	To assess the implications of proposed changes and respond to consultations to attempt to influence the policy direction in the Council's favour	Likelihood: Green Impact: Yellow Severity of Risk: Yellow
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<b>Background documents</b>	Any previous reports or decisions linked to this item
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<b>Relevant web links</b>	Any links for background information which may be useful to understand the context of the report
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