

**Eden District Council**

**Executive**

**5 November 2019**

**Council**

**7 November 2019**

**Council Plan 2019 - 2023**

<b>Portfolio:</b>	Leader
<b>Report from:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>	

**1 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the adoption of the Council Plan 2019-2023.

**2 Recommendation**

**Executive**

That Council be recommended to adopt the Council Plan as attached to this report at Appendix A.

**Council**

That the Council Plan as attached to this report at Appendix A be adopted.

**3 Report Details**

- 3.1 Following the election in May 2019, the Executive have been working to deliver a new Council Plan for 2019 to 2023. The vision and strategic priorities being proposed are as follows:

**Vision**

Our vision for Eden is of a place where people act together to meet the needs of all and ensure the well-being of future generations.

**Strategic Priorities**

**Sustainable**

Make our Council financially viable, customer focused and zero carbon.  
Co-produce economic opportunities and strategies which will protect Eden's working cultural landscapes and biodiversity, aiming to store more carbon than is produced in the District.

**Healthy, Safe and Secure**

Improve housing, both new build and existing, working towards self-sufficiency in energy; and co-produce healthy, connected, prosperous communities, for all, young and old, urban and rural.

## **Connected**

Improve digital connectivity, transport and access to attract and support businesses, employees and families, connecting Eden with the global economy and knowledge industries. People connected in communities and with access to education, work, healthcare and leisure and combat isolation.

## **Creative**

Encourage innovation in tourism, food and green industries and support businesses to respond to national and global changes. Develop arts and cultural activities to add to town centre vibrancy; support communities; and improve health and wellbeing.

- 3.2 The proposed Council Plan can be found attached at Appendix A.

## **4 Policy Framework**

- 4.1 The Council Plan establishes the strategic priorities for the Council for the next four years to May 2023. The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) will be reviewed to ensure alignment of the budget with the priorities of the Council.

## **5 Consultation**

- 5.1 The Council Plan consultation opened on 14 August 2019 and finished on 4 October 2019. A summary of the responses received can be found at Appendix B. The responses have been taken into account in preparing the proposed final version of the plan attached at Appendix A.

## **6 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial and Resources**

- 6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2015-19 as agreed at Council on 17 September 2015.
- 6.1.2 The MTFP will be reviewed to ensure alignment with the priorities of the Council Plan and to that the ambitions for the Eden District will be delivered.

### **6.2 Legal**

- 6.2.1 The Council shall exercise any functions in accordance with relevant legal requirements.

### **6.3 Human Resources**

- 6.3.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

### **6.4 Statutory Considerations**

<b>Consideration:</b>	<b>Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:</b>
Equality and Diversity	The Council is committed to ensuring it meets the Public Sector Equality Duty in order to provide equality of opportunity through access to services for all and delivering services which meet the needs of the Council's customers.

Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	The proposed Council plan promotes the well-being of future generations. There will be positive implications from the zero carbon initiatives outlined in the Council plan and benefits from on-going economic opportunities.
Crime and Disorder	Healthy, connected, prosperous communities will reduced the scope for crime and disorder.
Children and Safeguarding	The Council will work with other agencies to promote the well-being and safety of children and vulnerable adults.

## 6.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
That the Council does not have a clear vision for the next four years and beyond.	Short term and reactive decision making which is not in the best interest of the Council over the longer term.	Adoption of the Council plan.

## 7 Other Options Considered

7.1 None.

## 8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To ensure that the Council Plan and the Medium Term Financial Plan are in alignment and support the delivery of the Council's ambitions and priorities, providing the strategic framework within which the Council operates.

### Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	24 October 2019
Relevant Director	24 October 2019

### Background Papers:

Appendices:                      **Appendix A - Council Plan 2019 - 2023**  
    **Appendix B - Consultation Summary**

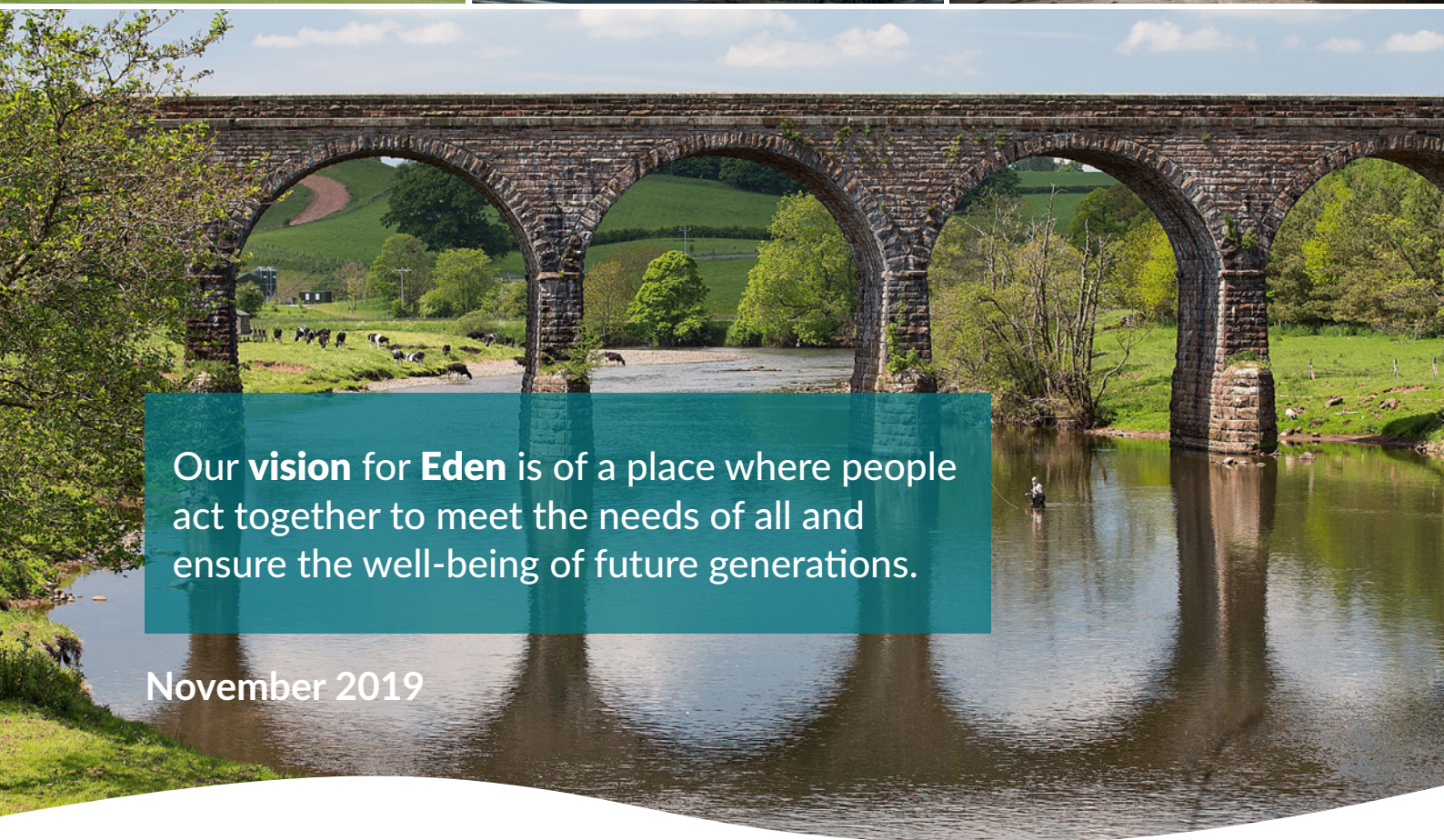
Contact Officer:                **Rose Rouse, Chief Executive**



# COUNCIL PLAN

## 2019 - 2023

*Eden*  
District Council



Our **vision** for **Eden** is of a place where people act together to meet the needs of all and ensure the well-being of future generations.

November 2019



# Introduction

**This is Eden District Council's plan for the next four years - a shared vision for Eden to be a sustainable community and place now, whilst safeguarding the needs of future generations. Partnership working and collaboration will be the key to success in delivering on our ambitions.**

**We can only deliver this plan through working with residents, the business community, and with public, voluntary and community sectors**

This is Eden District Council's plan for the next four years - a shared vision for Eden to be a sustainable community and place now, whilst safeguarding the needs of future generations. Partnership working and collaboration will be the key to success in delivering on our ambitions. We can only deliver this plan through working with residents, the business community, and with public, voluntary and community sectors.

The Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in July 2019. We want to make the Council's operations zero carbon by 2030; encourage initiatives which help Eden District to become net zero carbon; improve biodiversity while protecting our working cultural landscapes and economies.

We want to be leaders in shaping a sustainable model for living in changing times and for Eden to become a centre of excellence for the latest green technologies.

Eden will be a sustainable place where everyone has an opportunity to prosper. To promote this future we need to deliver a set of key building blocks: a reviewed Eden Local Development Plan; housing and affordable housing strategies; improved broadband for our businesses, communities and visitors; and business growth which encourages ambitious young people to live and work in the district.

Getting things done is important to us. We will be reporting back to you on progress in delivering these priorities.



**Dr Virginia Taylor**  
Leader of Council



**Rose Rouse**  
Chief Executive

[www.eden.gov.uk/councilplan](http://www.eden.gov.uk/councilplan)

# Eden District Council - Our plan for 2019-2023

Our **vision** for **Eden** is of a place where people act together to meet the needs of all and ensure the well-being of future generations.

## Our Priorities

In order to achieve this vision, we will focus on four priorities:

### Sustainable

Make our Council financially viable, customer focused and zero carbon. Co-produce economic opportunities and strategies which will protect Eden's working cultural landscapes and biodiversity, aiming to store more carbon than is produced in the District.



### Healthy, safe and secure

Improve housing, both new build and existing, working towards self-sufficiency in energy and co-produce healthy, connected, prosperous communities, for all, urban and rural.



### Connected

Improve digital connectivity, transport and access to attract and support businesses, employees and families, connecting Eden with the global economy and knowledge industries. People are connected in communities with access to education, work, healthcare and leisure.



### Creative

Support businesses to respond to national and global changes and encourage innovation in tourism, food and green industries and develop arts and cultural activities to add to town centre vibrancy, support communities and improve health and wellbeing.



## Sustainable

Make our Council financially viable, customer focused and zero carbon. Co-produce economic opportunities and strategies which will protect Eden's working cultural landscapes and biodiversity, aiming to store more carbon than is produced in the District.

### By March 2023 we will have:

- Prepared a revised Local Plan ready for submission to the Secretary of State.
- Achieved financial viability by transforming the Councils operating model, focussing on customers, service delivery, digital technology, accommodation, workforce skills and income generation.
- Identified and attained interim targets towards achieving net zero carbon by 2030.
- A sustainable waste and recycling system.
- Renewable energy schemes in operation.

### Key actions for 2019/2020:

- Assess the ecological impacts of all Eden District Council's decisions and actions.
- Prepare a Zero Carbon Eden Strategy to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2030 which considers all activities for which the Council is responsible.
- Work with other councils and public and private sector organisations (within Eden, Cumbria, the UK and globally) to determine best practice methods to achieve net zero carbon emissions in Eden District by 2030.
- Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and funding to meet a 2030 net zero carbon target across Eden District.
- Begin the process of recommissioning waste, recycling and streetscene services to deliver sustainability and value for money.
- Agree the programme for the review of Local Development Framework (Local Plan).
- Agree the business case for the Council's transformation programme (One Eden) by March 2020.
- Develop the Financial Strategy to align to the new Council Plan.
- Invest in Heart of Cumbria Ltd to help deliver Council priorities.
- Support the development of local sustainable energy schemes with project management and bids for funding.





## Healthy, safe and secure

Improve housing, both new build and existing, working towards self-sufficiency in energy and co-produce healthy, connected, prosperous communities, for all, urban and rural.

### By March 2023 we will have:

- Improved the availability of activities to promote healthy and active lifestyles for all through leisure centres, exercise outreach programmes, arts and countryside.
- Delivered sustainable housing that meets local need.
- Provided accessible Eden District Council services to meet changing customer needs.
- Delivered plans supporting the future of rural communities – transport, rural skills, microbusinesses.
- Retain and attract a working age population to overcome the increasing demographic imbalance.

### Key actions for 2019/2020:

- Develop and deliver a Housing Strategy to meet local needs.
- Publish a Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).
- Deliver a strategy which supports innovative, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing.
- Support Community Led Housing schemes and self-build and custom-build housing.
- Deliver a programme to reduce fuel poverty linked to the Zero Carbon Eden Strategy.
- Conduct a feasibility study for a support service (Homes Improvement Agency) to enable access to grants to improve the condition, energy efficiency and carbon footprint of private rented and owner occupied properties.
- Scope a review of community grants for April 2020.
- Develop an Eden Economic Strategy to support growth, business development, a higher wage economy and skills gaps.
- Support activities programme such as fit4all for older residents.
- Work in partnership to attract younger families to the district.



## Connected

Improve digital connectivity, transport and access to attract and support businesses, employees and families, connecting Eden with the global economy and knowledge industries. People are connected in communities with access to education, work, healthcare and leisure.

### By March 2023 we will have:

- Improved links between the community and the Council.
- Created conditions supporting technology businesses to set up and thrive in the district. Creating infrastructure and work space, achieving targets towards 100% broadband coverage of Eden District.
- Worked in partnership to improve strategic and local road infrastructure.
- Supported provision and use of safe walking and cycling routes in towns, villages and rural areas.
- Seen improvements in provision of public transport for rural communities.

### Key actions for 2019/2020:

- Identify opportunities to lobby for improvements to the network of public transport provision.
- Support communities to build resilient integrated transport networks.
- Work in partnership to deliver the Cumbria Cycle Strategy to make Eden an even better place to cycle for those who visit and live here.
- Prepare a sector specific Business Growth Programme.
- Bring together a local strategic partners summit to plan for Eden's future.
- Prepare a new model for leisure services provision.
- Initiate co-production of a plan for the future of Castle Park.
- Support Newton Rigg College to develop a future plan.
- Initiate co-production of renewed working arrangements with town and parish councils.
- Delivering electric vehicle charging points in the district.
- Develop a superfast broadband action plan by March 2020, working with partners to upgrade broadband provision to communities and businesses through the Borderlands Deal.



## Creative

Support businesses to respond to national and global changes and encourage innovation in tourism, food and green industries and develop arts and cultural activities to add to town centre vibrancy, support communities and improve health and wellbeing.

### By March 2023 we will have:

- Established Eden as a place for innovators in digital, green and other businesses and for artists and craftspeople.
- Created conditions that support the development of green businesses.
- Reinvented our town centres for the future.
- Delivered employment sites which incorporate plans to reach net zero carbon emissions.

### Key actions for 2019/2020:

- Identify a carbon literacy training offer for businesses.
- Develop an Arts and Culture Strategy working in collaboration with partners.
- Support the market towns in the delivery of plans for their future.
- Review hotel provision to support the sustainable growth of the local and visitor economy in Eden.
- Deliver the Eden Apprenticeship scheme, ensuring at least 15 apprentices a year are recruited across the district.
- Deliver the Eden Business Support Fund.
- Deliver a support programme for businesses managing the impact of Brexit.
- Commission a review of employment land to help ensure adequate supply to meet demands for growth.





[www.eden.gov.uk/councilplan](http://www.eden.gov.uk/councilplan)

# *Eden*

*District Council*

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**Eden District Council**  
**Council Plan Consultation**  
**14 August 2019 – 4 October 2019**

**Consultation Summary**

## **Introduction**

The public consultation on the draft Council Plan 2019-2023, undertaken between 14 August 2019 and 4 October 2019. The priorities being consulted upon are:

### **Sustainable**

Make our Council financially viable, customer focused and zero carbon. Co-produce economic opportunities and strategies which will protect Eden's working cultural landscapes and biodiversity, aiming to store more carbon than is produced in the District.

### **Healthy, safe and secure**

Improve housing, both new build and existing, working towards self-sufficiency in energy and co-produce healthy, connected, prosperous communities.

### **Connected**

Improve digital connectivity to attract and support businesses, employees and families, connecting Eden with the global economy and knowledge industries.

### **Creative**

Develop arts and cultural activities to add to town centre vibrancy; support communities; and improve health and wellbeing. Encourage innovation in tourism and food industries and support businesses to respond to national and global changes.

The Council would like to thank everyone who participated in the consultation.

## **Methodology**

The consultation involved members of the public, statutory consultees, stakeholders including town and parish councils, businesses, voluntary and community sector organisations, staff and Members.

The consultation was promoted through the local media and the Council website. Statutory consultees were contacted directly.

Responses were invited to an online survey available on the Council website and by email in response to the following consultation questions:

1. Do you agree with the 4 priorities of the Council for 2019-2023?
2. Do you agree with the goals and actions identified to deliver the priorities?
3. Do you have any suggestions for action to make the Council zero carbon and the District of Eden net zero carbon by 2030?
4. Are there any important issues or challenges for Eden that are not currently included in the plan?

The following media and consultation channels were used:

- Online survey
- Direct email
- Hard copy questionnaire distributed to Town Hall and Mansion House receptions, libraries and Local Links

A series of three workshops were held on 1 October 2019 at Rheged. The morning was a Business Engagement Event, the afternoon was for Community Groups and the Public and the evening was an engagement event for Parish and Town Councils.

<b>Responses Received</b>	
<b>Channel</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
Online Survey	135
By email	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>149</b>
Participants in the Business Event	72
Participants in the Parish and Town Council Event	45
Participants in the Community Event	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>

The responses have been analysed and the results are summarized below. The survey responses are presented numerically but it is important to remember that the numbers of responses are not statistically representative of the views of the population of Eden, but still provide a valuable insight into the views of those who participated in the consultation.

Likert scale questions give respondents a range of options, in this case, starting at “strongly disagree” scaling all the way up to “strongly agree”. These questions provide feedback on opinions of the priorities in the plan. Open ended questions were also asked and these responses were analysed based on the frequency with which the various issues occur.

Amendments to the proposed plan have been made taking into account the feedback received through the consultation and can be found on the Eden District Council website and at <https://www.eden.gov.uk/your-council/council-business/council-documents/council-plan/>

## Executive Summary

The survey responses indicate strong agreement with the priorities in the Council plan with following level of responses received for agreeing or strongly agreeing with the priorities:

<b>The four priorities</b>	82%		
<b>Sustainable</b>	82%	<b>Healthy, safe and secure</b>	87%
<b>Connected</b>	81%	<b>Creative</b>	79%

The most frequent reasons given for disagreeing with the priorities related to the impact and deliverability of the priorities and to the delivery of the sustainability priority for example:

*‘Some of the aims are not within the gift of the Council to deliver and it is misleading to suggest they are.’*

*‘I agree strongly with your goals, but I'm a confused, I would like to know how you plan to achieve these goals.’*

*‘The aim to be carbon neutral by 2030 is laudable but this should not be at the expense of more important local services such as schools, public transport and recycling.’*

*‘Sustainability: - Whilst we agree that this is an important priority; we hold some reservations in relation to how the goals can be met. In particular a ‘zero carbon council’, renewables and transport (EV charging infrastructure & transport networks).’*

Lots of suggestions were made to contribute to the delivery of Zero carbon and the themes which occurred most frequently relate to transport, energy and waste. These suggestions will be used to inform the development of the Zero Carbon Eden Action Plan.

The other important issues or challenges identified for Eden and/or the Council were in the themes of Transport, Older and Younger people, employment and housing:

*‘In an area so heavily dependent on car use by most people, in order to shop, visit friends etc, some way of developing car sharing and car clubs seems essential. Where any form of public transport can be supported (I realise that isn't a district council responsibility) I hope EDC can act.’*

*‘Transport - rethinking roads, parking etc - doesn't seem to be as prominent as I thought it might be Safe cycle routes other important issues or challenges you think there are for Eden and/or the Council.’*

*‘Area must become attractive for 18-25 year olds. Social scene and image needs to improve, so it can compete with major cities and university towns.’*

*‘young people leaving for jobs elsewhere’*

*‘encourage/work with employers, colleges etc to create opportunities, apprenticeships, training opportunities for young people’.*

*‘Improved social housing will be vital for an equitable society’*



Comments in relation to the draft plan covered a wide range of topics with the most frequently occurring theme being the impact and delivery of the stated ambitions

*‘Delighted by the direction the council is heading’*

*‘Keep up the good work’*

*‘high in aspirations, very low on detail’*

*‘Thanks for this move in the right direction!’*

*‘Whilst we appreciate that the plan is too an extent aspirational; we are keen to understand how the council intends to meet these goals’.*

*‘Engage with local business/consultants/community to help develop a coherent "vision" of a decarbonised future’*

*‘Engagement with all the secondary education providers to support options for young people to remain in area for training and work. We can't afford to lose them!’*

*‘Convene neighbourhood discussion sessions that that focus on action by and for the benefit of communities, including but not driven by businesses.’*

*‘I really like the way things are well-integrated with sustainability a core value throughout.’*

*‘A push for community self-building plots’*

*‘Ensure the new housing being built meets the needs of those looking. As first time buyers we visited new property development around Penrith and felt the housing was out of our price range and the houses too big. The estate had only built one 3 bed house and the rest were 4 and 5 beds and out of price range to the majority of first time buyers’*

*‘A joined up approach with local businesses is essential and it is good that EDC have already embarked on a consultation process.’*

*‘What are you doing for our aging population.’*

*‘Do you plan to build houses to suit our aging population , warm and energy efficient’*

*‘Do we really have to wait until 2023 in rural communities before isolation, due to lack of public transport, is addressed?’*

## Detailed Findings

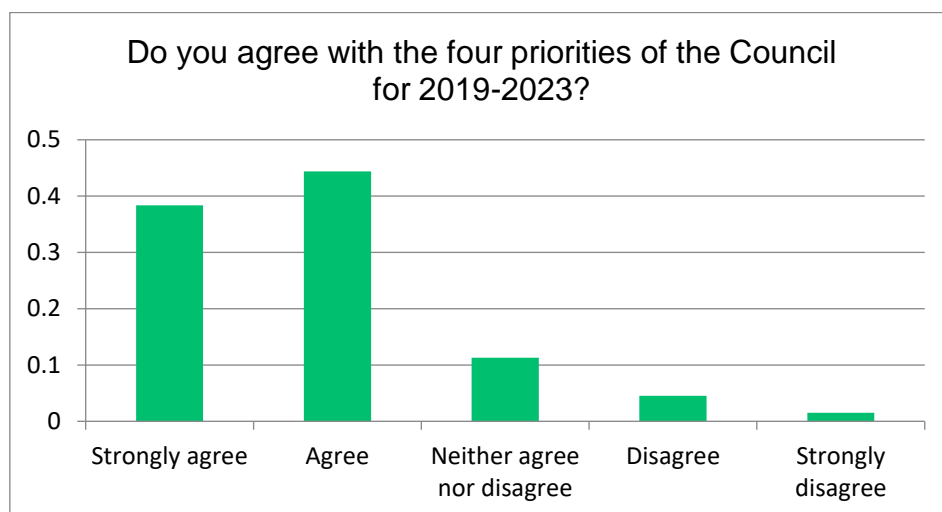
### Online Survey

The online survey questions were as follows, with the results summarised below each:

#### Q1. Do you agree with the four priorities of the Council for 2019-2023?

Of the 133 responses received to this question, 82 % of respondents agree or strongly agree with the four priorities of the Council Plan.

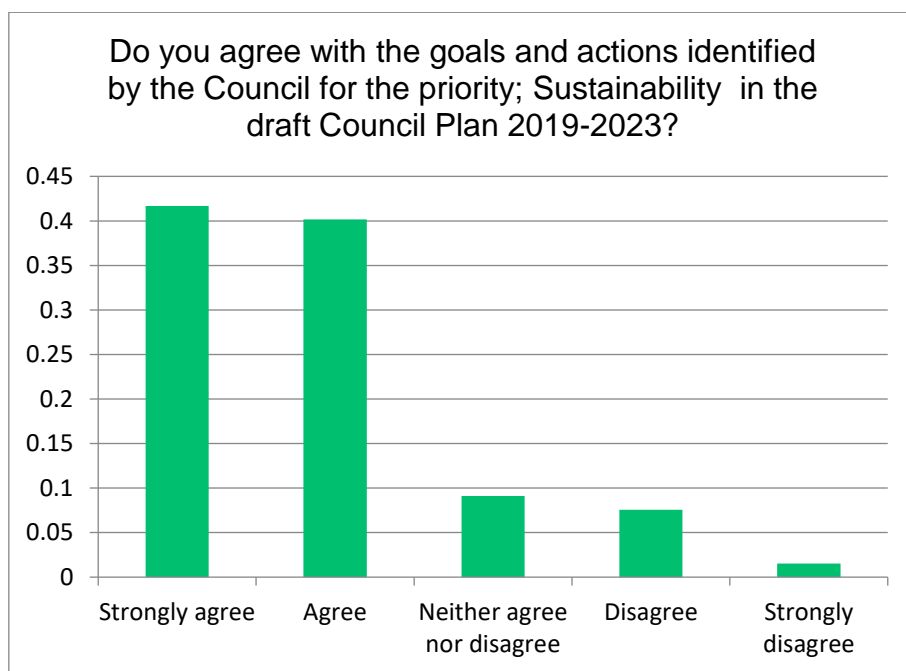
Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	38%
Agree	44%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%
Disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	2%



Q2. Do you agree with the goals and actions identified by the Council for the priority; Sustainability in the draft Council Plan 2019-2023?

Of the 132 responses received, 82% agreed with the priority of Sustainability

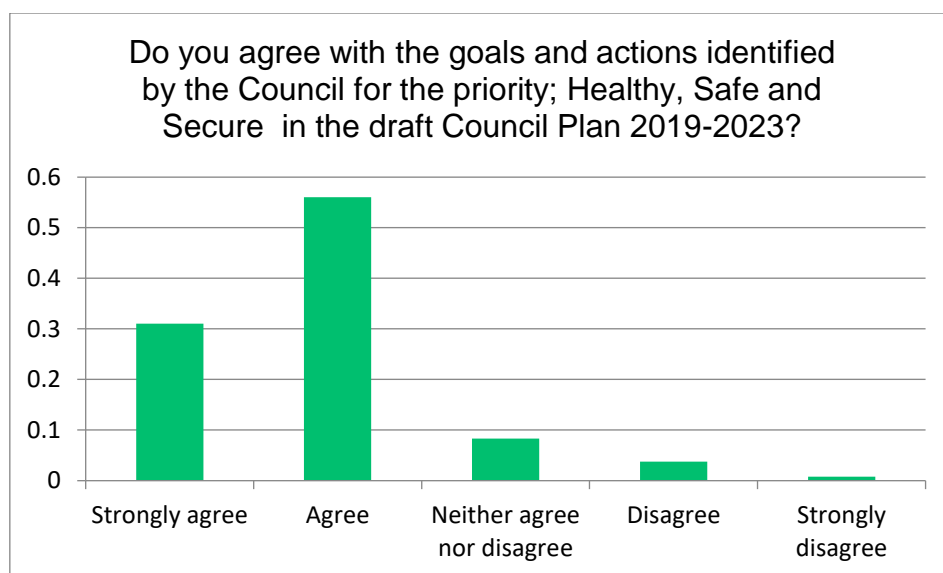
Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	42%
Agree	40%
Neither agree nor disagree	9%
Disagree	8%
Strongly disagree	2%



Q3. Do you agree with the goals and actions identified by the Council for the priority; Healthy, Safe and Secure in the draft Council Plan 2019-2023?

Of the 132 responses received to this question, 87% agreed with the priority of Healthy, Safe and Secure.

Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	31%
Agree	56%
Neither agree nor disagree	8%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	1%

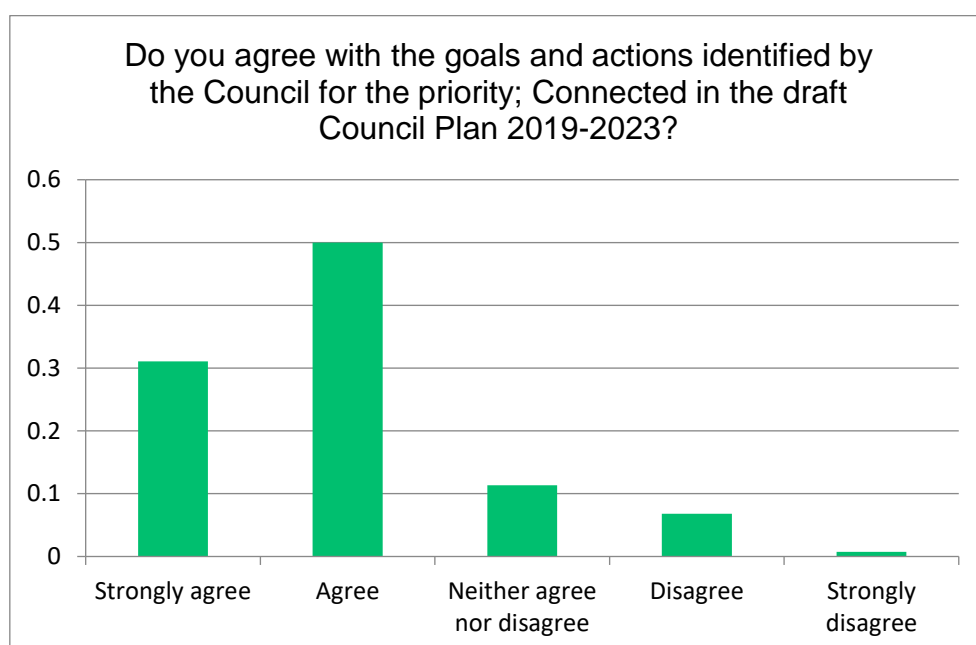




Q4. Do you agree with the goals and actions identified by the Council for the priority; Connected in the draft Council Plan 2019-2023?

Of the 132 responses received 81% agreed or with the priority, Connected.

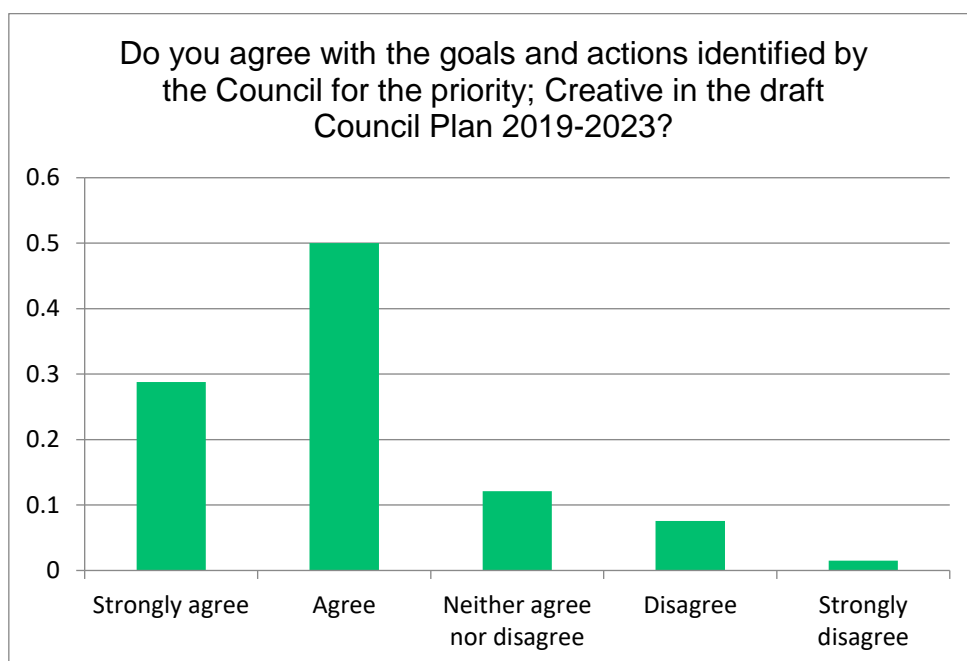
Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	31%
Agree	50%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%
Disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	1%



Q5. Do you agree with the goals and actions identified by the Council for the priority; Creative in the draft Council Plan 2019-2023?

Of the 132 responses received to this question, 79% agreed with the priority, Creative.

Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	29%
Agree	50%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%
Disagree	8%
Strongly disagree	2%



**Q6. If you answered 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' to Q1 to Q5, please state your reasons.**

In response to this question, responses were received covering a wide range of themes including housing, rural communities, resources and engagement.

The impact and deliverability of the plan, performance management and accountability is the most frequent issue raised with the priorities, followed by the theme of sustainability and concerns over how the zero carbon goals can be met.

A sample of responses to this question can be seen below:

Some of the aims are not within the gift of the Council to deliver and it is misleading to suggest they are.
I agree but feel you haven't gone far enough on some issues
no substantive evidence
I agree strongly with your goals, but I'm a confused, I would like to know how you plan to achieve these goals.
We're a local council, let's not get caught up in grand gesture carbon posturing. Infrastructure, arts, tourism, farming; focus how to make each of these better and Eden will prosper.
I believe climate emergency and sustainability are essential I believe having a plan which pulls the local people together and helps create community is part of the answer If we need to build more housing it is ESSENTIAL that it is sustainable, so much housing has gone up in Penrith recently and not a solar panel in sight- this is a massive opportunity missed Thank you for such a helpful plan. Keep going.
Sustainability: - Whilst we agree that this is an important priority; we hold some reservations in relation to how the goals can be met. In particular a 'zero carbon council', renewables and transport (EV charging infrastructure & transport networks).
A key action for 2019/20 is to assess the ecological impacts of all EDC decisions and actions. As far as I am aware there are only two members of staff who are qualified in Ecology and Environmental Science (I'm one, and another person in my team is the other) and both of these officers are actually employed for something else entirely. The Council therefore currently has no resource to do this!
The aim to be carbon neutral by 2030 is laudable but this should not be at the expense of more important local services such as schools, public transport and recycling.
A mixture of nice new eco-friendly homes built and either sold at cost, or rented at fair prices to people who have lived in the area for say 5 years minimum. No more oil boilers, and people struggling to pay their bills. Heat exchange pumps, hell maybe some wind turbines. C'mon guys, you can start a revolution! Let's make some big changes to benefit the town and its people.
I do not agree that the Council needs to be focused on being Carbon Neutral. I agree it needs to be mindful of it, but not that it should be a main priority. I think the economics and providing affordable homes to sustain communities of the district are far more important and needed.
Healthy, Safe & Secure: - we agree that this is an important priority but hold concerns as to how the goals can be met. In particular, we have concerns relating to rural transport infrastructure and addressing fuel poverty.

I would suggest aiming as a minimum for Gigabit High Speed Internet across ALL of Cumbria. Get providers to bid to cover every single home in Cumbria, don't let them cherry pick which areas THEY want to supply, make them bid for all homes. Like when they bid for 4g or 5g infrastructure. Think smarter to get the best deal for locals. As a collective we have massive buying power.
I disagree with the aim to create conditions favourable to technology businesses for the following reasons: a) The infrastructure is not available and would require changes that contradict the councils sustainability targets. b) Aims for Superfast Broadband are idealistic and not directly under the control of the Council. c) It would detract both time and funds from the support of businesses within the Arts and Culture sectors that 'sit' more naturally with the intrinsic nature of Eden.
These are the councils own vision not the community's
More weight should be given to local views expressed through Parish Councils in planning matters
Why only one event for this at Rheged from 2pm -5pm at a time when people work in a tourist local, why not do an event in each main town?
I would like to know how this council will finance a zero carbon council without taking it out of our pockets
Have the authors actually considered what achieving a zero carbon status will involve. Virtually all experts on the subject agree that it is do-able but it comes at a price, e.g. planting trees in Pakistan to offset Carbon, or taking the hit on Feed in tariffs which have reduced significantly in recent years, and I can see nowhere where the financial implications are considered, unless it is under the transforming the Council section!
No mention of support services in rural areas.
Creative: - we agree that this is an important priority but hold concerns as to how the goals can be meet. However, this appears to be centric towards Towns vs. rural communities.
Need to improve street lighting in our villages and rural community
Social aspect.... For Penrith/Eden to grow we need to keep hold of those of working age and particularly younger persons... Need interesting jobs with a good level of income... Technologies... We want them to be inspired to live here and not move outside of the area....want to inspire people to move in and bring their skills and experience.
Too much emphasis arty, touchy feely stuff. Plenty of housing, with associated infrastructure for our youth is much more important to keep them as part of our community.
I feel that every household should have a recycle programme in place for collection of green waste.
Similarly a 'sustainable waste and recycling system'. EDC suffers from being one of the largest geographical areas and most sparse. Therefore one of the biggest costs is around the transportation of waste from homes or bring sites. The Council has two conffliction drivers here - one to increase the amount of recycling, but that comes with an increased environmental impact in terms of transport and landfill of the recyclate that cannot be recycled, for example, due to contamination.
Artists & crafts people should not expect to be subsidised from public funds. Not a priority in my opinion.

Need incentives to get people to build on brown field land. The local plan needs relaxing with regard to development on brown field in villages also. Need a balance between protection of countryside and growth of area....

transport and rural communities is mentioned, but as Eden is not the transport authority and the County has already removed most of bus services, I'm not sure what realistically is being proposed here?

Also Eden should be making greater efforts to develop cycleways along our roads for children to travel to school and adults to work. Our public transport is non-existent in many parts and so only way to travel is by car which many cannot afford to own or run.

**Q7. The Council have committed to make the Council zero carbon and the District of Eden net zero carbon by 2030. Do you have any suggestions for action on the Zero Carbon Eden project?**

The themes recurring most frequently were:

- transport,
- energy,
- waste and
- impact

These themes accounting for over half of the comments received.

A sample of responses to this question can be seen below:

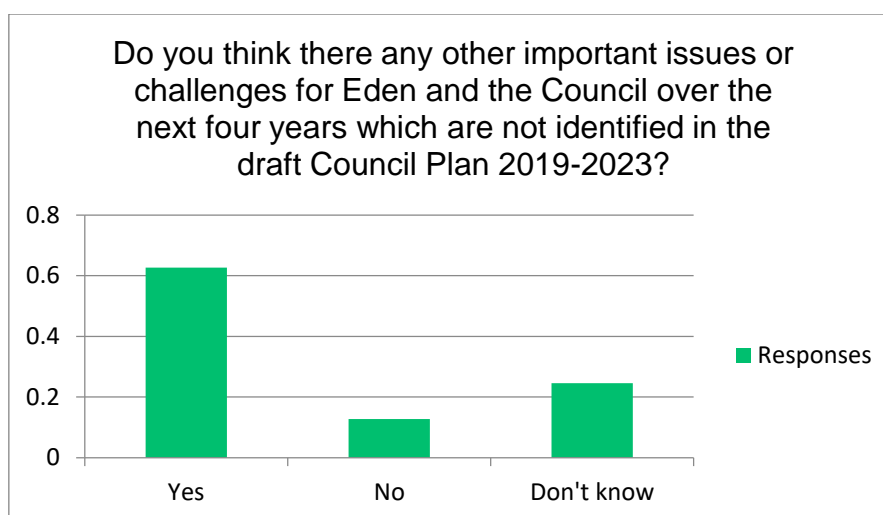
Improve cycle ways and footpaths between villages and towns. Encourage Ebikes.
Integrated transport systems to all towns and villages
Eden needs to improve its roads, i.e. A6, A66, rural roads, and provide safe cycle ways. If it wants to encourage people to walk and cycle instead of use their cars
Cheaper, frequent local transport and/or community electric car pools/sharing etc.
Make the town centre part pedestrian and have parking on the outskirts with a courtesy bus (even better if they were electric buses)
Making the Council carbon zero will be nigh on impossible and it's just ridiculous to say the whole District will be Carbon Zero. Can't wait to see how traffic on the M6 is addressed!
Improve and maintain Public Transport especially rural bus services so that there is a reduction in car use.
Improve public transport to reduce private car use.
many more electric car charging point
Get the whole district connected to mains gas
Promote fuel companies that are only using green (or are implementing plans to grow green sources) sources of energy such as Ecotricity.
make conditions for all new housing and commercial property with some element of south aspect to have photovoltaic cells for the entirety of that roofing
identify and encourage development of 'energy fields' - photovoltaic panels e.g. in folds on lower fells which would have minimal visual impact
Strong & secure EV charging infrastructure in towns and rural communities.
Subsidies farmers for zero carbon. Many farmers could have greener energy via solar panels or bio digesters. They can also provide cheaper energy for other local houses if possible.
Encourage the use of vehicles that run on batteries or hydrogen-fuel cells and not use any diesel or petrol.
Funding and assistance for community energy microgeneration.
Develop renewable energy. Provide funding for energy efficiency retrofits of domestic and commercial properties and
I think something must be done to reverse the current presumption against windfarms, and much more work put into supporting solar and hydroelectricity for local use.
Customer dialogue (both initial and ongoing) is required around this to help ensure that customers are 'on-board' with this, to identify any concerns that they may have around it (e.g. what does it mean for my business) and start to work out solutions together.



Commendable aspiration but where are we starting from. The community needs to know and understand how we can achieve this goal working together and how important our individual engagement is. To do this it needs to be measured / benchmarked.
Publicise information on recycling, home insulation, reducing car use etc.
The Council must make the effort to engage more with young people. They should be actively encouraged to make representation to Council, and should be encouraged to add their voice to any consultation.
The Bulky Waste Collection facility could be changed to avoid waste. Instead, items could be collected, refurbished and sold; right2work in South Lakes shows how it can be done by a social enterprise.
Reform the waste contract! We need to have a recycling center in Eden, rather than shipping recycling away racking up further carbon emissions. How about an electric fleet of waste vehicles? Plus separate food waste collection
Recycle organic waste to reduce landfills and generate clean energy.
Collect general household waste fortnightly - fewer journeys means less carbon, financial savings and encourages recycling.
And please tackle the plastic nightmare
Green waste collection
more provision of recycling bins everywhere esp. in streets. make it easier and cheaper for people to reduce their carbon
Waste reduction strategy
Further recycling and ease of this for all
Get on with it, no survey needed.
It is important to have agreed milestones and a transparent method for calculating progress towards these targets. These should be science based and not 'emotionally' driven as the plan needs to consider economic impact.
Shame the target is 2030 and not sooner
I need proof that this is required and hard facts with regard to the benefits
There are lots of mentions of plans and strategies and meetings - isn't there anything you could just start to do now? There doesn't feel like there's any sense of urgency.

**Q8. Do you think there any other important issues or challenges for Eden and the Council over the next four years which are not identified in the draft Council Plan 2019-2023**

Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	63%
No	13%
Don't know	25%



**Q9. If you answered 'yes' to Q8, please explain what other important issues or challenges you think there are for Eden and/or the Council.**

The majority of 108 responses received to this question were on the themes of transport, age (older and younger) and employment, accounting for over half of the responses received.

A sample of responses to this question can be seen below:

Transport, this is generally poor across Eden, i.e. bus service, frequency of train times, electric charge points
Public transport in rural areas.
There is no mention of a growing elderly population, yet there are cycle tracks mentioned for the more abled younger members. People in wheelchairs or mobility scooters cannot even use the pavements because people park on them. This is also hazardous at schools for people with pushchairs.
Breaking our dependency on personal vehicles for travel will be vital. Perhaps free day time parking could be provided if you car share into work. Ideally, public transport would be improved massively to make it the norm, for commuters, shopping trips into town and visitors.
In an area so heavily dependent on car use by most people, in order to shop, visit friends etc, some way of developing car sharing and car clubs seems essential. Where any form of public transport can be supported (I realise that isn't a district council responsibility) I hope EDC can act.
Safe cycle routes recycling and types of recyclable goods

Transport - rethinking roads, parking etc - doesn't seem to be as prominent as I thought it might be
Cycle routes along the A686 and A66 would connect outlying villages with Penrith and enable commuters to get to work in Penrith. The cycle track from Edenhall and Langwathby is a nonsense. It was developed by taking away part of the road which is now narrower and the cycle lane is on the edge of the tarmac amongst rubble etc. Also to get to Penriddock by cycle safely means using the C2C route which is miles long, 12 miles from Edenhall to Penriddock. Both the A686 and A66 have verges which could be transformational into separated cycle lanes
Needs of young and old people (not specifically mentioned)
social issues - how the council proposes to keep improving the area, so that services are expanded to help and accommodate those with Dementia?
youth unemployment
Area must become attractive for 18-25 year olds. Social scene and image needs to improve, so it can compete with major cities and university towns.
More work on tackling the reduction of working age population.
young people leaving for jobs elsewhere
encourage/work with employers, colleges etc to create opportunities, apprenticeships, training opportunities for young people.
The thousands of jobs mentioned in the doomed Masterplan May have been overly optimistic but how will the area attract new jobs?
Improving work opportunities that promote flexible working
Improving work opportunities in digital sectors

# **Q10. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the draft Council Plan 2019-2023?**

Half of the responses received to this question were in relation to the themes of impact and engagement

A sample of responses to this question can be seen below:

Need to develop an action plan alongside the budget for 20/21.you refer to detailed milestones, they must be published for 20/21 alongside the budget and be measurable
Delighted by the direction the council is heading Keep up the good work
Too vague in content - time will tell.
How will you achieve carbon neutral with two Nat Parks and a world Heritage site plus the A66 and M6 bringing in tourists
High in aspirations, very low on detail
Thanks for this move in the right direction!
Whilst we appreciate that the plan is too an extent aspirational; we are keen to understand how the council intends to meet these goals.
It seems to be full of wordy mission statements, and nothing about how any of this is to be acheived!
Stick to specifics and avoid (largely meaningless) generalities
CPC note the content of the plan and have concerns that it lacks strategic vision/direction for the area.
make sure when it is confirmed that the actions are carried out and prove it is not a talking shop
This plan comes over as a bit of a wish list written by people who do not really know what they are talking about, but ensuring that they include a few topical buzz words or have copied some of what other Council's have described, without fully understanding what is meant.
This version is a vast improvement on the previous flimsy draft consulted on earlier in the year, which appeared to have been written by a school student on work placement. Good to see the environment get a look-in for a change too. Well done EDC!
More action
Please avoid grand gestures. Small multiple reversible projects. The master plan was horrific do the opposite. If we make mistakes, then let them be small ones.
It lacks details and just looks like an executive overview, needs a proper plan to show how it will be reviewed annually, it should not just be the Council's plan to achieve other partners should be committed to it, otherwise you can't deliver it.
Engaging with community groups and schools, via volunteers.
Engage with local business/consultants/community to help develop a coherent "vision" of a decarbonised future
Engagement with all the secondary education providers to support options for young people to remain in area for training and work. We can't afford to lose them!
Convene neighbourhood discussion sessions that that focus on action by and for the benefit of communities, including but not driven by businesses.
Does council have any plans for a citizens panel
Instead of just being a council plan get the people's views and ideas and it could be the people of Eden's plan.

## Consultation Event

The Council held a consultation event at Rheged on 1 October 2019. The programme was in three parts, with a breakfast networking event for Businesses, a community event in the afternoon and a session for parish and town councils in the evening.

The four questions to the delegates throughout the day were:

- 1) What do you feel the Council's priorities should be for the next four years?
- 2) What do you see as the main challenges to delivering the draft Council Plan?
- 3) Is there anything missing that you feel should be included in the updated Council Plan?
- 4) What are the key issues for your organisation in becoming carbon neutral?
- 5) 3 Key messages to feedback

A summary of the themes appearing with the highest frequency wit at the different sessions can be seen in the table below.

<b>Business</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Parish and Town Council</b>	<b>Combined</b>
<b>Q1 What do you feel the Council's priorities should be for the next four years?</b>			
Age (younger)	Sustainability	Engagement	Engagement
Employment	Engagement	Sustainability	Sustainability
Connectivity	Housing	Rural Communities	Transport
Sustainability	Transport	Transport	Housing
<b>Q2 What do you see as the main challenges to delivering the draft Council Plan?</b>			
Resources	Resources	Resources	Resources
Engagement	Culture	Regulation	Regulation
Culture	Regulations	Sustainability	Culture
		Culture	Engagement
			Collaboration
<b>Q3 Is there anything missing that you feel should be included in the updated Council Plan?</b>			
Impact	Engagement	Sustainability	Sustainability
Age (younger)	Sustainability	Transport	Impact
Business	Collaboration	Land Use	Engagement
	Impact	Engagement	Transport

<b>Q4 What are the key issues for your organisation in becoming carbon neutral?</b>			
Sustainability	Sustainability	Resources	Transport
Employment	Resources	Sustainability	Sustainability
Resources	Transport	Land Use	Resources
		Regulation	
<b>Q5 Key messages to feedback</b>			
Engagement	Impact	Engagement	Engagement

Following analysis of the themes which appear with the highest frequency, for question 3, identify issues which are missing from the draft plan, the following themes need to be incorporated in Council Plan:

What?

- Age (younger people, Older people)
- Business
- Employment and skills
- Rural Communities
- Transport

How?

- Collaboration and partnership
- Engagement
- Impact – delivery and accountability

The comments below are illustrative of the comments received against these most frequent themes.

## **Age**

*Working age population – attracting returnees and new people*

*Plan barely makes reference to attracting young talent*

*The Council Plan doesn't refer to the need to retain (or attract) younger people/people of working age.*

*Social issues - how the council proposes to keep improving the area, so that services are expanded to help and accommodate those with Dementia?*

*Where's the mention of ageing population?*

*Better support for chronically ill & disabled residents.*

*Improve consultation with young people.*

## **Business**

*Support for businesses to be more sustainable*

*Cumbria needs to invest in capacity in overseas markets – take Cumbrian product/place to overseas. Build a demand led economy*

*Importance of food tourism and development opportunities.*

*Visitor economy and promotion is very important*

## **Employment and Skills**

*Economic development and sustainable jobs*

*Knowledge base/skill sets*

*More on education, centre of excellence*

*Vibrant economies attract high level skills and retains them*

## **Rural Communities**

*Rural strategy – action for sustainable communities*

*Mention value of community facilities/venues*

*Action about town centres needs to be widened to having a vibrant and modern district to attract people to live here*

*Social inclusion and inequality/rural and social isolation – needs to be clearer in the plan*

*Include villages, rural areas in point 5 of Healthy safe and secure*

*Rural needs need looking at – needs to be inclusive, smaller communities need more of a voice*

*Building more of community feel in the town, such as café and arts culture. Penrith is quiet on Sundays, no businesses are open, need to encourage this for the town*

## **Transport**

*As villages lose or have lost shops and pubs and churches, we need to improve links to the hubs like Penrith, Appleby, Kirby Stephen, Shap through buses, bikes and trains*

*Connected – transport policy?*

*‘Cycle route in towns’ – what about linking the district – be bold!*

*Need to ensure that transport connectivity is included so that all can see benefits re villages, towns etc. to connect to cultural and creative offer, jobs, health centres etc.*

*Growing the economy, utilising the transport links of Penrith, whilst also improving them to ease congestion around Penrith.*

*Transport, this is generally poor across Eden, i.e. bus service, frequency of train times, electric charge points*

## **Collaboration**

*Maximise the value of Eden’s voice on issues like transport, not in direct control*

*Growth strategy to drive the economy – do it individually or within the borderlands?*



*Further partner integration – joint goals/shared results*

*More emphasis on partnership working/ co-production*

## **Engagement**

*Listen and engage community in solutions*

*Consider smaller rural communities and give them their own voice*

*Listening to business, community, customers to flesh out how to deliver Council Plan, don't just pay lip service to this...*

*Reinforce image on what the Council wants the place to become*

*Look @ making 'Brand Eden'*

## **Impact**

*Set benchmark and targets when priorities agreed*

*More information will be available in January so communities can judge better and see progress*

*Must have policy commitment behind all of these actions*

*Who will be responsible for each heading and how will delivery happen?*

*A good start to a more positive approach*

*Delivery of the key objectives is paramount for credibility*