



Weston-super-Mare Town Council
Town Council Strategy
April 2020 – March 2030
(Reviewed and Updated March 2025)

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As we reflect on the past four years of progress, we are proud of the strides we have made in engaging with our local communities. We have ensured that the voices of the residents remain central to shaping the town's future. Our commitment to listening and responding to the diverse needs of our community has been evident through the various channels we've used to connect with people, from social media to more traditional methods.

This Strategy builds upon the foundations we've established and strengthens our vision for the town's future. It serves as both a roadmap for the years ahead and a live document that will evolve with the community's needs and aspirations. Whilst we acknowledge that not every objective can be achieved within a short time frame and that certain external factors are beyond our control, we remain steadfast in our clear intentions and direct efforts to influence key decisions and take action where possible to improve the quality of life in Weston.

Five years into this journey, Weston-super-Mare Town Council is more committed than ever to improving our town and fostering a sense of pride and belonging for all who live, work, and visit here. Our ambitious plans recognise that Weston's future identity will be shaped by its rich cultural, heritage, arts, and tourism services, and the role of the Town Council will remain pivotal in defining and promoting that identity.

In the face of challenges such as shifting retail landscapes, environmental concerns, social disparities, and ongoing expansion, we are focused on improving Weston-super-Mare as a dynamic destination for not only shopping but also leisure, events, work, and living. Our efforts are focused on creating a cleaner, greener, safer, and more vibrant town—one where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life and feel a sense of pride.

We continue to recognise and celebrate Weston-super-Mare's Victorian seaside history while also embracing innovation and forward-thinking solutions. We remain committed to forging constructive partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure the delivery of our vision whilst keeping Weston's interests at the heart of all we do.

As we enter the second half of this 10-year plan, we are more determined than ever to be a relevant and responsible Town Council, equipped with the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances and seize new opportunities. This Strategy is both a guide for the next phase of our work and a tool to ensure we continue to meet the evolving needs of our community. We will review this document annually, with a full evaluation set for 2029, ensuring that we remain on track to realise our ambitions for Weston-super-Mare.

Abbreviations:

WSMTC – Weston-super-Mare Town Council

NSC – North Somerset Council

BID – Business Improvement District

SLA – Service Level Agreement

CANS – Citizens Advice North Somerset

CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy




Mission

Working with the people of our town celebrating traditions and making Weston-super-Mare a great place to live, work, visit and enjoy.

Vision

'Ever Forward' we will ensure our town becomes a more vibrant, prosperous, cleaner, greener, safer and inclusive place for everyone to enjoy.



CORE VALUES

The Council believes it is important to establish a core set of organisation values that determine the way we operate and conduct business. These three values are:

To conduct its business with integrity, impartiality, and transparency in the spirit of the Freedom of Information Act.

Be a listening and caring Council that treats all views with courtesy and respect.

To have a positive 'can do attitude in which we believe in the people, businesses and communities of Weston and strive to support them to

Ambitions involve the Town Council being actively engaged to find solutions which best meet local needs and priorities with regard to any significant choices needing to be made affecting the town's future.

We will work with the local community and partners to ensure that the Town becomes a more vibrant, better served, more prosperous place in which to live, work and enjoy life. We will encourage public participation and make known the availability of a public speaking session prior to all Town Council and committee meetings.

The Council will at all times recognise its responsibilities surrounding governance and good financial practice. It will comply with the Code of Conduct and the Nolan Principles in public life and work to an appropriate complaint's procedure for use by the public in regards to the Town Council it's staff and councillors.

Human Resources - 2025-2030 HRM Function

The Council will act as a good employer to all Town Council employees, who are entitled to:

- Equal Opportunities.
- A Contract of Employment, Job Description and Person Specification each subject to terms and conditions as determined by current employment legislation.
- Training and development within staff development plans to meet business requirements.
- Recognition in respect of staff pay and grades under the Local Government terms and conditions.
- Issue of Employee Handbooks clearly setting out terms and conditions of employment and maintaining effective grievance and disciplinary procedures.
- Real Living Wage
- Encouragement to join a Trade Union

Town Council staff provide 'value-added' in the provision of effective and efficient service provisions. The areas this is achieved and measured are:

- 1) Reducing absence
- 2) Good recruitment decisions
- 3) Raising performance levels

We continue to invest in our workforce via training and development, effective leadership and management and the promotion of consistent 'Management Standards'.

The Council's main funding comes via its precept - this is a levy made and collected via the council tax charge payable by Weston-super-Mare residents. Other income is sourced through service provision and external grants.

The 2025/2026 expenditure budget is £5,153,627 of which £4,450,668 will be collected via the precept. This equates to £163.98 per year on an average, Band D, household.

Within this overall budget, the council has allocated resources to fund projects identified within the strategic plan for this year. Within its financial management, the council will maintain adequate levels of general reserves in line with its financial regulations and will, where appropriate, maintain a scheme of earmarked reserves which can be used as required to help fund the key strategies and any future major projects identified in this plan.

The Town Council is supported by an officer structure with a core of staff employed within each service area to deliver the Council's services and policies and ensure decisions are made appropriately. The Council is also committed to using volunteers who work with employed staff to meet objectives and ensure community cohesion.

The structure is headed by a Chief Executive Officer / Town Clerk. The officer structure is reviewed annually to ensure that it is able to deliver the broad spectrum of planned activities.

We recognise that the core staff number remains relatively small and this will be supplemented as necessary by procuring expertise or services externally in order to ensure there is the capacity to deliver, whilst remaining flexible. The Council is committed to the development of an efficient and innovative operating model in order to achieve its strategic objectives.

The Town Council will adhere to good governance best practice via its adopted and published policies and procedures.

The Town Council will act in the best interests of local people in making representations to:

- North Somerset Council.
- Outside Agencies.
- Central Government.
- Other appropriate private or public sector groups.

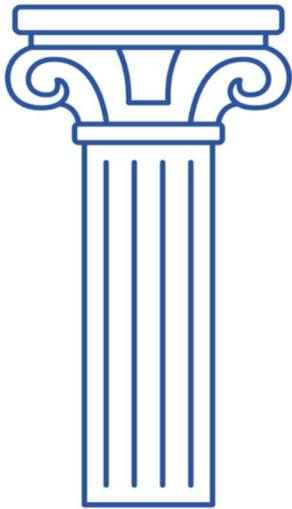
The Town Council will operate to the letter and in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 in the exercise of all its functions.

The Council has devised 'five pillars' or themes that will be referred to later in this document. These 'pillars' will form the basis of its strategic aims. This is the Town Council's statement of what it aims to achieve over the course of the strategic plan. Achievements in the years 2020-2024 have been reflected upon, against these pillars, in the 'Successes and Milestones' section of the document. Whilst not exclusive, the projects included have been agreed in principle as areas to support and resource. All projects will be kept under review and may be amended or added to as circumstances change within the duration of the plan.

The Council has identified its priorities based on five pillars or themes comprising of the following:

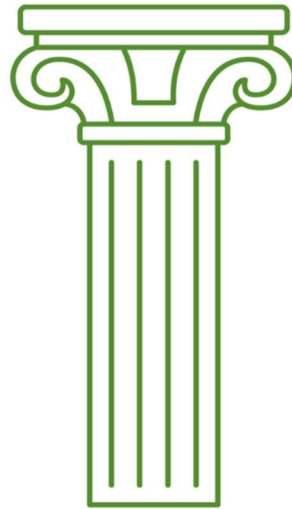
Weston View

Measures to promote and better present the Town.



Cleaner and Greener

Measures to improve the local environment.



Healthier and Happier

Measures to promote the health and wellbeing of local residents.



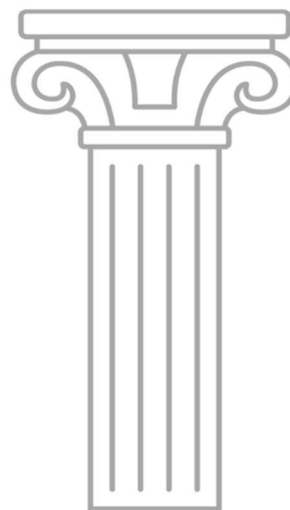
A Bright Future

Measures to support and enhance the local economy.



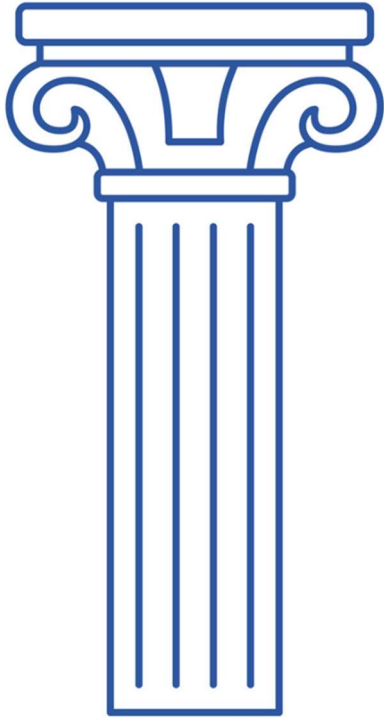
Heritage, Arts and Culture

Measures to ensure that Weston-super-Mare thrives as a vibrant place for arts and culture



Weston View

Measures to promote and better present the Town.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare has a positive image, with a vibrant town centre.

Ambition / Objective 1.1 – Improve the image of and pride within the town and make it attractive for visitors and businesses.

We will aim to:

- Ensure Weston-super-Mare has a positive image and identity, both locally and nationally.
- Implement successful measures to enhance the town experience for residents and visitors: adding colour to the town, markets, community events programme.
- Collaborate effectively with strategic partners (NSC, BID) to improve town cleanliness by combining resources and programming works, building the service to be more visible and responsive with working patterns to reflect the town's needs.
- Maintain a persistent expectation for high standards in the public realm even in the face of persistent anti social behaviour, engaging businesses and residents in improvements.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic consultation

Ambition / Objective 1.2 - Continue to develop and improve the content of the Town Council's websites and social media, including development of alternative websites.

We will aim to:

- Continue to increase participation and build engaged and active communities.
- Enable truly meaningful engagement by improving the flow of information, both digital and otherwise, to and from the Town Council.
- Review current websites operated within the town, with the intention of avoiding duplication, to provide a one-stop 'Weston' information platform to promote local economy, local living, and town promotion.

Timescale: 0-6 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and General Purpose, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic consultation

Ambition / Objective 1.3 - To encourage local shopping parades to become vibrant, well used areas across the town.

We will aim to:

- Support projects of placemaking working with partners to deliver outcomes with regard to high street regeneration.
- Proactively support enterprises and businesses to create jobs for local people, encouraging expansion and the creation of new opportunities.

- Proactively work with partner organisations (i.e. BID) to improve and promote local parades.
- Promote that empty shops be used for 'community use' productively, to encourage a higher footfall in the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 1.4 - To encourage community initiatives to use the town centre to create events, festivals, fetes, pop-up shops, etc.

We will aim to:

- Provide events which meet the needs and ambitions of residents as well as promoting the town nationally.
- Promote, map and encourage community events through collaborative efforts.
- Support the community through building capacity for fund raising and sustainability, including using larger events to engage groups and deliverers.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Grants and Governance Sub Committee

Ambition / Objective 1.5 - Supporting homelessness initiatives

We will aim to:

- Work with Somewhere to Go via a revised and updated Service Level Agreement (SLA) to enable provision to support vulnerable communities (homeless/street) within the Town.
- Work in partnership with YMCA outreach service, community response, CANS and North Somerset Council on shared initiatives.

Timescale: 0-5 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 1.6 - To actively support anti-crime and disorder campaigns within the town, in liaison with the police and North Somerset Council and CCTV services

We will aim to:

- Continue funding dedicated community response officers for Weston-super-Mare.
- Interact regularly with police inspectors who will report to the Town Council.

- Continue funding CCTV provisions across the town, including identification of new cameras.
- Work with the police, street wardens, community response teams to retain a high presence within the town so that antisocial behaviour is dealt with and people feel safe (Crime and Disorder Act s.17).

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 1.7 - Implement a Communication Strategy

We will aim to:

- Produce an effective internal and external communications strategy to include: a framework for creating opportunities to raise awareness of, and encourage community participation in, the work of the Town Council.
- Seek to identify and deliver opportunities to be directly responsive to community needs and aims through consultation and active listening – delivering a ‘you said, we did’ approach.
- Develop better tools for listening with residents, community groups and strategic partners, i.e. introduction of interactive CMS platforms.
- Share what we learn with other towns and parishes, ensuring Weston-super-Mare stays on the map.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and general purposes.

Ambition / Objective 1.8 - Implement a Marketing Strategy

We will aim to:

- Ensure the council brand is consistently linked to services.
- Make best use of social media for the benefit of residents.
- Manage the media effectively to promote Weston-super-Mare and the Council.
- Publish a regular communication leaflet four times per year for residents.
- Make the best use of council noticeboards.
- Be transparent, open and accessible with good communication at the heart of everything that we do.
- Ensure the capacity for open information sharing is maintained.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and general purposes, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 1.9 - Provide, fund and support cultural events in the community in collaboration with partners.

We will aim to:

- Hold/enable successful events in the old Town Quarry, ensuring they are well-attended with positive feedback and critical acclaim each year.
- Hold/enable successful joint events in the Italian Gardens bringing, footfall into the town and elsewhere, enabled with Town Council financial support.
- Deliver an annual programme of events designed to promote footfall for the town centre.
- Support events which meet the needs and ambitions of the residents as well as supporting the town nationally.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Blakehay Theatre, Weston Museum, Old Town Quarry

Ambition / Objective 1.10 - Produce a Central Event Listing across departments and organisations in collaboration with partners.

We will aim to:

- Attract large numbers of people and support the art and business economy of the town.
- Maintain a robust events marketing campaign via the visit Weston website.
- Utilise digital resources in the town centre (Silica) to promote events across the town.
- Utilise noticeboards along the sea front and Town.

Timescale: 0-10 Years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Visit Weston

Ambition / Objective 1.11 - Provide Christmas lights with Christmas light switch-on event

We will aim to:

- Continue funding Christmas Lights displays.
- Develop a Christmas programme of activities, shopping opportunities and Town dressing, working with businesses and NSC, Sovereign, BID to promote the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic

Ambition / Objective 1.12 - Provision of a Visitor information Centre, dedicated website and signage for tourists and residents.

We will aim to:

- Provide physical and digital visitor information services across multiple sites and platforms to include: The Waterpark, 32 Waterloo Street, roaming welcomers and our websites and social media.
- Support the provision of additional visitor infrastructure e.g. hotels and accommodation for short stays.
- Proactively support and work with key visitor attractions in the town to build and understand their capacity, relevance and offering.
- In all actions, seek to create and engender a welcoming sense for the town.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: VIC, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Visit Weston

Ambition / Objective 1.13 - Encourage people living and working in Weston to participate and to engage in decision making.

We will aim to:

- Encourage everyone to get involved. Participation and engagement are key. We will always look at new ways to listen to residents and businesses to bring forward voices that are not usually heard.
- Engage with and support the wide variety of community organisations in the town which help us deliver our aims.
- Build relationships and trust, advocating for town projects.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 1.14 - Enable provision and maintenance of street furniture

We will aim to:

- Provide and maintain street furniture where needed e.g. bins, bus shelters, benches etc.
- Proactively identify gaps in provisions needed to fulfil needs within the community.

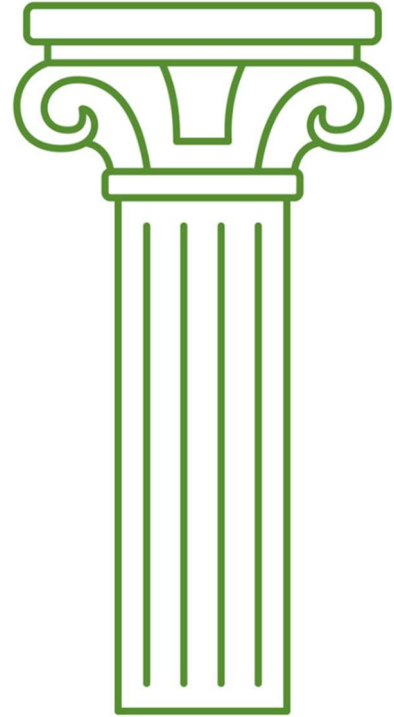
Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure



Cleaner and Greener

Measures to improve the local environment.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town and its wards become a cleaner and greener place to live and work protecting and enhancing the environment.

Ambition / Objective 2.1 - The Town Council aims to be carbon neutral by 2030

We will aim to:

- Understand our current carbon footprint at 2020. Areas covered: Buildings, operations, activities, vehicles (Both Town Council and Staff).
- Work with the community, NSC and others to deliver the Green Infrastructure Strategy.
- Ensure sustainability is embedded in all that the Council undertakes, strengthening the town's resilience with respect to the impacts of anticipated climate change.
- Review the commissioned roadmap to zero survey and subsequent report, with effort made to achieve all identified ambitions, with exploration of where further changes could be practically made.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.2 - Reduce waste and consider disposal options to include composting, recycling and reusing across all Town Council services.

We will aim to:

- Reduce waste through sharing, repairing and recycling, and ensure the most environmental disposal of generated waste is consistently reviewed and monitored.
- Make Town Council operations as sustainable as possible, with particular consideration of single use plastic.
- Support more businesses to work towards being plastic free and promoting other community and council activities to encourage reduction of resource use.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.3 - Supporting 'Cleaner coastlines' for Weston's plastic free ambitions.

We will aim to:

- Build a community sense of pride and ownership, including encouraging "cleaner coastlines" and other groups, supporting community action in shared spaces.
- Actively support with publicity of beach cleans and other events.
- Eliminate single use plastic in all Town Council facilities.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.4 - To promote biodiversity. To create a 'rewilding' programme in cohesion with North Somerset Council in appropriate areas.

We will aim to:

- Work with partners to secure the enhancement of green spaces so residents have access to a diverse range of green spaces for play, amenity, wildlife, relaxation and socialising.
- Ensure rewilding efforts will be considered and well communicated.
- Endeavour to establish rewilded areas of natural beauty, where appropriate across our asset base.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure.

Ambition / Objective 2.5 - To maintain current and increase current tree stocks to offset carbon. In addition to look for more opportunities to plant trees in our area.

We will aim to:

- Maintain a robust tree management plan for all Council owned land, to include that when a tree is felled, a replacement is planted, to ensure we maintain established trees on council land.
- Explore opportunities to improve land use for a wide range of environmental benefits. Where carbon sequestration via an ambitious tree planting programme is insufficient, we will connect with other organisations and businesses to work collectively to reduce the town's carbon footprint.
- Continue to work with partners to deliver improvements to the town's biodiversity.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.6 - To provide community support to ensure the up-keep of community areas i.e. paths, cycleway and verges in conjunction with North Somerset council. Identifying needs through ward members and working with community groups.

We will aim to:

- Work with strategic partners to ensure a robust programme is in place, with regard to clean open spaces and safe environments for community use, with feedback from general public.

- Explore opportunities to take on more green spaces and more public places, and provide the support necessary to ensure upkeep, whilst ensuring public spaces remain at a high standard.
- Strengthen partnerships with community groups and seek opportunities for community growing.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.7 - To provide Town Council Staff / members opportunity to engage in 'ride to work' and bike purchase schemes.

We will aim to:

- Promote the scheme annually to all staff with the aim of demonstrated decrease in unnecessary car journeys.
- Make the town council's electric bikes available for use during business hours.
- Take steps to make cycling more attractive to staff, by reviewing infrastructure across all assets to facilitate use e.g. bike racks, secure places.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.8 - to support local food initiatives in order to reduce food waste, including the support of the Community Fridge and Food Clubs projects.

We will aim to:

- Continue the implementation and enablement a community fridge facility to reduce carbon waste.
- Support and promotion of food club initiatives across the town, including the development of a food charter for projects in the Weston-super-Mare area.
- Access grant funding for distribution to community initiatives.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.9 - To improve the provision of Dog waste bins and service to the community.

We will aim to:

- Create a map of the locations of all 'waste bins' for the Town Council website to encourage responsible disposal of dog waste, identifying all bins (NSC, WSMTC and other) with the aim of streamlining this service across the town.
- Review of the location of the dog waste bins and place or remove them where needed.
- Review all dog bin locations and where alternative disposal is available e.g. general waste bins.

Timescale: 0-7 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Grounds

Ambition / Objective 2.10 - To reduce energy and fuel consumption across all council activities and services. To change to 100% renewable energy (i.e. solar panels, electric vans and energy providers).

We will aim to:

- Work to reduce energy demand by supporting better energy management and installation of insulation and other energy efficiency measures across our assets.
- Introduce Solar panels across the town council assets over the duration of the strategic plan.
- Change to green vehicles for operational teams, including use of electric bikes.
- Ensure adequate staff resources are available to monitor and oversee roadmap to zero aspirations.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance/Procurement

Ambition / Objective 2.11 - The Town Council will continue to maintain and improve its open spaces, to include Milton Road Cemetery and Parks and Play Areas as community facilities.

We will aim to:

- Manage and look after our spaces to the high standards set and expected by the council, whilst fully acknowledging climate emergency criteria in doing so.
- Continue to plan how we create and manage open spaces in Weston-super-Mare, focusing on the people that visit and enjoy them but equally balancing the need to conserve their landscape value and their biodiversity.
- Make demonstrable improvements to support biodiversity, rewilding, reduce waste generation (composting).
- Ensure that the operational grounds team is visible and approachable as the public face of the council in parks, play areas and open spaces.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 2.12 - Weston in Bloom and flower bed provision. Provide floral displays for spring / to decorate centres.

We will aim to:

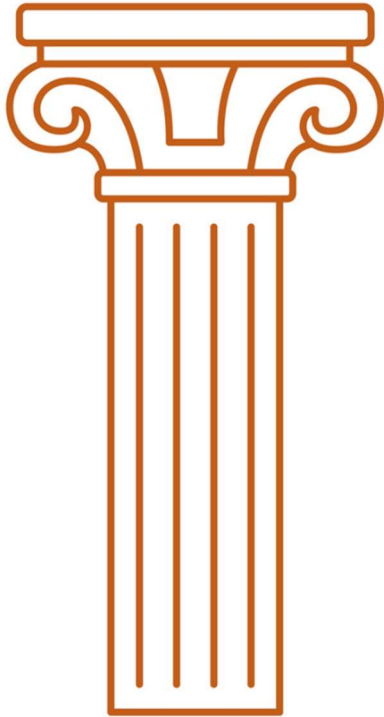
- Assign areas based on resources available for both volunteers and community partners, town council supported or other organisations.
- Support and work with Weston in Bloom volunteers and partner organisations on floral displays and upkeep.
- Proactively lead and support projects and initiatives that seek to improve the street scene, alley way environments, planters and flowerbeds.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Weston in Bloom

Healthier and Happier

Measures to promote the health and wellbeing of local residents.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare and its wards prioritise its residents' health and wellbeing.

Ambition / Objective - 3.1 Develop and maintain Community Support and Resilience working with community volunteer groups to enhance the town. Identify opportunities for greater use of community groups to operate services and facilities.

We will aim to:

- Support activity which strengthens social connections, fosters intergenerational networks and creates a sense of belonging.
- Work within agreed Community Engagement/ Resilience Outcomes Framework to identify priorities, and Community Resilience Team and voluntary group efforts.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.2 To find sustainable solutions to secure the future of some key community assets such as - Drop in cafes, dementia activities, SEN sessions, volunteering, Mayors charity ETC.

We will aim to:

- Understand the demand for services in Weston and work to prevent the loss of essential community assets and services.
- Continue creating inclusive events via our assets, welcoming a diverse range of community members, including marginalised demographics.
- Help reduce loneliness by providing access for community groups to gather in our venues.
- Liaise with specialist groups and explore opportunities to address elderly loneliness, promoting intergenerational activities.
- Help promote diversity and equality.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective - 3.3 The Town Council will maintain, support and encourage a Youth Council to enable and encourage young people to take part in the democratic governance of the town.

We will aim to:

- Encourage greater participation from young people in Weston, particularly in promoting activities and generating beneficial ideas.
- Provide an annual youth grant budget, overseen directly by the Youth Council.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.4 The Town Council will work in partnership with the youth project delivery partners to support the provision of necessary youth services in the town.

We will aim to:

- Continue collaborating via SLAs with appropriate organisations who work to understand the needs and wants of young people, ensuring they have access to a range of appropriate leisure and social activities outside of education.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grants and Governance Sub Committee, Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.5 To support local voluntary organisations where deemed appropriate via the grant system.

We will aim to:

- Continue to support organisations through the use of grants and SLAs to promote the health and well-being of residents.
- Ensure grant application forms remain available throughout the year with decisions normally made at the appropriate Grants and Governance Sub Committee meetings.
- Increase public awareness of the grant availability.
- Consider SLAs for appropriate organisations to provide necessary financial support for services that benefit the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grants and Governance Sub Committee

Ambition / Objective - 3.6 Provision of parks and play areas as a community facility. To maintain and develop the Water Park to meet the needs of both local residents and visitors. Celebrate and enhance Grove Park as showpiece town centre park. Explore taking on Weston and Worle's main parks including Ellenborough, Clarence, Ashcombe and Castle Batch parks.

We will aim to:

- Continue to explore opportunities to take on more green spaces and more public places for the health and wellbeing benefit to the town and its residents.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.7 Provision of public toilets to meet need. Review and improve provision of public toilets to meet need Develop Community Toilet Scheme.

We will aim to:

- Ensure the toilets are kept in good working order, through our devolved management and maintenance contract.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.8 The Town Council will continue to support the entire community of Weston-super-Mare, and establish further initiatives to ensure Weston-super-Mare is actively inclusive.

We will aim to:

- Create an environment in which people can thrive. We will work to build a cohesive community that brings people of different generations and backgrounds together.
- Celebrate the diversity of our communities of place, origin, interest or age and proactively engage with them, ensuring they are consulted and represented.
- Ensure our Equality and Diversity Policy remains robust and up to date, producing any necessary plans to address matters identified by these reviews and consultations.
- Deliver any necessary equality and diversity training which will be mandatory for staff and expected for all councillors.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.9 Development and Wellbeing initiatives via the Town Council to work with the local community on wellbeing initiatives.

We will aim to:

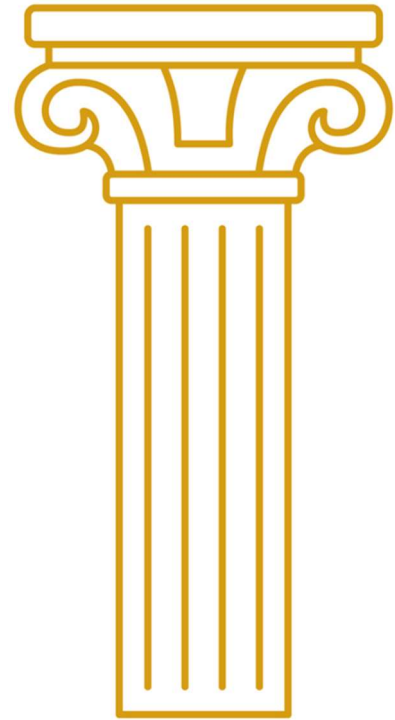
- Ensure that community organisations which serve Weston-super-Mare are well supported, connected and able to continue delivering for the town.
- Help bring groups together to share skills and resources.
- Help establish new community organisations to deliver services for the community and provide the necessary support and guidance to help get a group off the ground, where a need is identified.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council



A Bright Future
Measures to support
and enhance the local
economy.



Our Aim

To work with its own resources and with the local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare and its wards has a bright long-term future for its local economy

Ambition / Objective 4.1 - Work with business in the town to provide a voice, with regard to the economic development of Weston-super-Mare through the Place Agency to support business and the town economy.

We will aim to:

- Improve Weston for its residents, for those who visit the town, those who draw visitors to the town and the businesses on which we all depend.
- Work in partnership with strategic organisations to encourage initiatives which aim to create footfall and entice new people into the town centre. Supporting the town centre means we need to encourage as many people as possible to shop local and support local businesses.
- Work with strategic partners and local businesses to promote the sharing of expertise, knowledge and resource to enable the town centre as a whole to compete. Independent businesses are facing increased competition from major brands, out of town shopping areas and the internet.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective 4.2 - To support any improvement to the visual impact of the access routes into town.

We will continue to:

- Be a consultee to North Somerset Council strategic planning.

Timescale: ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 4.3 - Consult with local people regarding the provision of Town Council services and facilities.

We will aim to:

- Work to maximise the benefit of our buildings to the local community whilst also minimising operational costs and maximising income.
- Ensure that, as the first tier of local government, we are seen as leaders within our community. We will always aim to keep a finger on the pulse of the town and understand the issues that affect our community.
- Ensure, through being led by democratically elected councillors, that we are well positioned to be the voice of the community outside the town, representing Weston-super-Mare with regional and national bodies as is needed.
- Recognise that working in partnership with others means we can both deliver more for our town and also take advantage of the incredible skills and passion within the community. This will also provide opportunity for us to learn from others and for

others to learn from us, helping develop the next community leaders and a more empowered community.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 4.4 - To support the sustained growth of tourism business to Weston-super-Mare.

We will aim to:

- Continue to find new ways to get more people visiting Weston-super-Mare. Weston-super-Mare benefits from being a town that people want to visit for its character, heritage and independent businesses.
- Increase number of business partners to support the Visit Weston brand.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 4.5 - Identify opportunities from new technology for more efficient working for staff and councillors.

We will aim to:

- Proactively identify gaps in technology to enable efficient and effective working practices.
- Continually work to understand the needs of staff and councillors across our services to ensure they have access to the appropriate technology within the resources available to do so.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 4.6 - Promote Fairtrade business practices in the town.

We will aim to:

- Uphold the commitment of the Fairtrade Town Certification within our service delivery. The Town achieved Fairtrade Town Certification from the Fairtrade Foundation March 2021.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 4.7 - To support the community through deployment of Community Infrastructure Levy funds to help improve facilities within the parish of Weston-super-Mare.

We will aim to:

- Identify, via the CIL policy, applicable community projects to determine use as appropriate. The Town Council expects to receive minimal amounts of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from major housing developments.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective – 4.8 To lead and support the devolution of assets and services to the Town Council, ensuring their effective management for the long-term benefit of the town and its residents.

We will aim to:

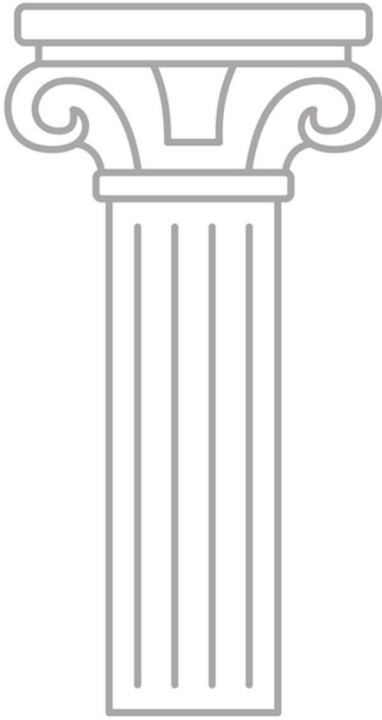
- Work in partnership with North Somerset Council and other relevant stakeholders to identify, prioritise and transfer assets and services suitable for devolution, ensuring financial sustainability and community benefit.
- Establish clear asset management plans to ensure all transferred assets are maintained, enhanced and used effectively.
- Explore opportunities to use devolved assets to support community initiatives and service delivery where appropriate.
- Ensure that any asset transfer aligns with the Council's wider strategic objectives and delivers measurable benefits for residents and visitors.

Timescale: 0–5 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes Committee, Town Council, Devolution Start and Finish Group

Heritage, Arts and Culture

Measures to ensure that Weston super Mare thrives as a vibrant place for arts and culture



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare has growing opportunity for Culture, Heritage and the Arts.

Ambition / Objective 5.1 - The Town Council will continue to support and encourage the provision of facilities for arts and culture in the town.

We will aim to:

- Continue to work with venues, both our own and other well-loved facilities throughout the town, and with other organisations to explore new opportunities and collaborations which may arise to support the cultural life of Weston.
- Attract interest in the town from the wider world, via culture and arts. This will enable us to share valued experiences whilst also attracting investment and spending.
- Continually improve the image of and pride in the town's culture, making it attractive for residents, visitors and investors alike.
- Regularly review our arts and cultural direct services to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and value for money are achieved.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.2 - The Blakehay Theatre to remain an important destination for cultural development and dramatic arts in the town, providing modern facilities for the performing and visual arts and community activities.

We will aim to:

- Develop and review the management and marketing of the Blakehay Theatre so that it becomes a recognised venue for regular drama, comedy, musical and other productions of performing arts.
- Create and develop a sustainable business model, seeking to serve all parts of the community in a representative way including access to a diverse offer of theatre entertainment.
- Recognise and promote local and national creative talent.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes.

Ambition / Objective - 5.3 Weston Museum (as a result of heritage lottery funding) will be maintained as a diverse community resource whilst maintaining its Museum focus and access to heritage and learning.

We will aim to:

- Deliver a regionally significant museum within the Town to showcase its heritage, which is also a destination for visitors.

- Aspire to be the best tourist attraction in the Town centre, whilst developing itself as an arts and cultural destination for the benefit of both the local community and visitors to the town.
- Maximise income generation opportunities (e.g. Wedding Function) to support and ensure the heritage asset remains sustainable for the future.
- Create a sustainable calendar of events, seeking to serve all parts of the community in a representative way, including free to access activities as well as larger events, using management data to inform delivery and development.
- Take the lead to empower a volunteering culture within the Museum (and across the council services) by promoting benefits and opportunities.
- Redevelop Clara's Cottage, securing grant funding to support this (Phase 2).
- Redevelop remaining spaces within the Museum (Phase 3).

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.4 - Promote and celebrate sites of local historical interest.

We will aim to:

- Enact a Blue Plaque scheme for buildings within Weston-super-Mare, following the completion of personal Blue Plaques.
- Continue to make heritage a central, visible theme within service delivery where appropriate, including events and regeneration, recognising that the Town Council is in a position to safeguard the town's heritage on behalf of its residents and as such can demonstrate community leadership without seeking to control it.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.5 - To strengthen social cohesion through running and supporting activities, events, festivals, youth initiatives and clubs alongside managing Town Council facilities and shared spaces for the community.

We will aim to:

- Identify needs working with community partners in the delivery of festival/events which are of value to the community.
- Recognise the role that events play in the fabric of the town and seek to strengthen and support them through good communication and engagement.
- Provide the support and culture for community groups and individuals to develop, deliver and build events in the town that serve the community, including links to education.

- Ensure any event programme directly delivered aims to bring the wider community together, and support other events which aim to do the same through our community events grant scheme.

Timescale: ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.6 - To maintain the civic traditions of the town's Mayoralty.

We will aim to:

- Lead a strong, connected community with a thriving community spirit and civic pride through the Election of a Mayor annually and a robust programme of engagements within the town. Recognition of the Mayor as the town's ceremonial head.
- Support and champion causes that enhance the resilience of the town. We see the role of the Mayor as to support and enhance the energy and commitment of its citizens. We will enable others to be successful.
- Ensure that any improvements add to the sense of place and identity for Weston, building civic pride – telling the story of Weston.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Civic Consultative Group, Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective 5.7 - To maintain and assist community organisations with the town twinning with Hildesheim, keeping twinning arrangements under review.

We will aim to:

- Develop a 3-year strategic plan in collaboration with Hildesheim, to identify shared interests and opportunities.
- Work with Hildesheim and utilise the opportunities offered by them to involve our own local residents, particularly young people in the town, in educational and business activities.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 5.8 - Take over and operate Town Quarry in conjunction with local arts community.

We will aim to:

- Develop the Old Town Quarry Site to ensure a sustainable community space which celebrates and recognises the site's heritage and previous use.
- Create a vibrant hub for local artists.
- Safeguard the habitats of the local ecology, and create a maintenance and management programme for the site upkeep.
- Create an events programme to start Summer 2025.

Timescale: 5-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.9 - Work with North Somerset Council to safeguard and interpret Worlebury Hillfort.

We will aim to:

- Provide detailed interpretation of the Hillfort, in collaboration with the Old Town Quarry regeneration.
- Create a visitor information centre at the Old Town Quarry to provide visual access to this hard to reach heritage site for all.

Timescale: 5-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes

Weston View

March 2020

September 2020 – employment of dedicated community response officer.

November 2020 – Pledged to be an Anti-Racist Council.

December 2020 – decision to take the waterpark admissions operation in house.

December 2021 – New contract for creation of a Tourism website.

January 2022 – Continuation of funding support for 'Somewhere to Go' - £50,000.

February 2022 – Approval of application and criteria for £60,000 community events grant funding.

March 2022 – agreed to work in partnership with Culture Weston for the delivery of the annual literary festival.

May 2022 – £2,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

July 2022 - SEE Monster arrived with collaboration with the tourism team with creation of a Tourism DVD.

January 2023 - £20,000 awarded to Weston Wallz street art project.

June 2023 – New partnership packages were created for tourism partners.

June 2023 – £2,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

November 2023 – £10,000 awarded to support Knife Angel programme of events in May 2024.

July 2024 – £3,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

May 2025 – The Visit Weston Logo was updated

November 2020 – £20,000 grant funding awarded to Culture Weston to support first Glow lights Event February 2021.

December 2020 – £25,000 given through SLA to support 'Somewhere to Go' charity as a homeless support fund.

May 2021 – £6,000 awarded to the BME Network and £1,000 to North Somerset Arts for events.

January 2022 – Secured 'Welcome Back' Funding. £40,000 for the improvement of street furniture.

March 2022 – Community Events Budget allocated as follows: £1,500 Christmas Lights, £1,000 YMCA Youth Event, £2,500 Weston Literary Festival in conjunction with Culture Weston.

June 2022 – £26,623 awarded to Culture Weston for a procurement of complementary events alongside the SEE Monster arts installation.

October 2022 - £10,000 awarded to Culture Weston for Glow Lights Event in 2023.

February 2023 - £1,000 awarded to The Stables for a comedy event.

June 2023 – £22,000 awarded to theatre orchard to support Glow lights events in 2024.

July 2023 – decision to combine Armed Forces Day and Emergency Services Day events in June 2024.

July 2024 – £10,000 budget for cleaner streets was utilised by purchasing equipment for community use.

March 2025 – Town Vitality initiatives adopted and a works programme produced

June 2025 – Decision to incorporate the 'Super Weston' website under the Town Council

Weston View Continued

November 2025 – appointment of a new website designer for the Visit Weston website, with the new site to be launched May 2026

January 2026 - £20,499 given through SLA to the Town Centre Partnership for the year 2026/2027

January 2026 - a budget of £3,000 was agreed to support the Street Vitality programme for the year 2026/2027

January 2026 - £40,000 given through SLA to Somewhere to Go for the year 2026/2028

January 2026 - a contribution of £3,000 awarded to Voluntary Action North Somerset for the year 2026/2027

January 2026 - £102,010 given through SLA to the North Somerset Council Community Response Team for the year 2026/2027

January 2026 - £85,000 given through SLA to the North Somerset Council CCTV Team for the year 2026/2027

February 2026 – a web design company was appointed to support the Super Weston website merger

March 2020

Cleaner and Greener

May 2020 – Quotes were received for a climate change consultant to produce a report.

July 2020 – Town council took over lease of Ellenborough Park West for a period of 3 years to be used as a Wellbeing Park.

November 2020 – the 'Roadmap to Zero' carbon emissions report was produced by an external consultant.

January 2021 – The Town Council signed up to the tree charter.

September 2021 – Green Infrastructure Strategy commissioned through the Town Council's Arboricultural consultant.

September 2022 – ahead of the procurement exercise, a series of grants for Castle Batch SEND play area were awarded to the Town Council (£110,499), resulting in a total budget, with town council funds, of £400,000.

August 2022 – Dedicated Climate and Community Development Officer started working at the Town council.

November 2022 – Weston in Bloom budget used to fund bedding plants and sustainable plants for Stanley's garden in Worle.

July 2023 – Castle Batch SEND Play Area opened to the community.

September 2023 – the Town council was awarded £9,000 to become the Anchor Organisation to administer grant funding to the community for the 'Shaping Places for Healthier Lives' fund.

November 2025 – Grounds team began using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for its ride on mower, a renewable synthetic diesel alternative made from waste fats and vegetable oils

May 2020 – a mindfulness video was commissioned of Milton Road Cemetery, to include information from the Council's Arboricultural consultant.

July 2020 – £5,000 grant funding was received from the Quartet Community Fund for the Community Fridge initiative.

January 2021 – consultants were commissioned to help set up 3 food clubs throughout the town.

March 2021 – decision to begin researching additional cemetery facility.

January 2022 – a further two grants (£4,000 from Hubbub and £1,000 from Alliance Homes) were received for the community fridge.

August 2022 – Structural investigations began at Weston Museum for solar on the roof.

October 2022 - £10,000 match funding budget earmarked for tree planting in the town.

February 2023 – Cycle to work loan scheme set up for staff to purchase bikes.

August 2023 – decision to work with an outside company to review all 23 play areas and produce a programme of maintenance and refurbishment.

January 2024 – decision to remove Climate and Community Development Officer Role.

February 2026

Healthier and Happier

March 2020

July 2020 – Town council took over lease of Ellenborough Park West for a period of 3 years to be used as a Wellbeing Park.

November 2020 – A contract for maintenance and management of the public toilets was awarded.

January 2021 – Grants awarded to: Friends of Grove Park £900, Homestart £1,000.

March 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worlebury hillfort group £1,000.

May 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worlebury hillfort group £1,000.

July 2021 – Consultant commissioned to undertake feasibility study for Grove Park Toilets.

November 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worle Community Association £1,000, Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

January 2022 – WSMTC supported the proposed community hub initiative which has been grant funded and being delivered by Race Equality NS and The Stables.

January 2022 – Grants awarded to: The Priory Learning Trust £1,000.

May 2022 – Grants awarded to: Stanley's Garden £950.

July 2022 – Grants awarded to: Great Western Ambulance Charity £1,000, The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre) £500.

November 2022 – Grants awarded to: Weston Hospicecare £1,000, Read Easy £500, Weston Bay Trefoil Guild £500, North Somerset British Bangladeshi Association £1,000.

January 2023 – £25,000 given to CANS through SLA.

November 2020 – Grants awarded to: Read Easy WSM £400, Revitalise £500, Somerset Storyfest £500, That Creative Thingy Wotsit CIC £600, WSM Street Pastors £500, Worle Wind Band £500.

January 2021 – A Black Lives Matter Working Group (later renamed Anti-Racism Working Group) was created, with Councillors appointed to represent the Town Council.

March 2021 – Town Council pledged the following: accessible toilets bear correct signage and encourage retailers to do the same, raising awareness of hidden disabilities, seeking advice from disability charities on information and training that should be provided to council members, working with NSC to promote sunflower friendly scheme across WSM.

September 2021 – Grants awarded to: The Priory Learning Trust (Jill Dando Walk) £1,000, Friends of Grove Park £700, Weston Hospice Care £500.

December 2021 – The Town Council took ownership of a cargo bike to be used for community food initiatives in partnership with the For All Healthy Living Centre.

March 2022 – Grants awarded to: The Notable Club £1,000, North Somerset People First £987.

July 2022 – Grants awarded to: Great Western Ambulance Charity £1,000, The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre) £500.

October 2022 – Funds for food projects were allocated out to community organisations.

January 2023 – Grants awarded to: HMD North Somerset £800, Food Bank £800.

March 2023 – Grants awarded to: Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

Healthier and Happier - Continued

September 2023 – Grants awarded to: Girlguiding £500, Weston Hospicecare £1,000, Together Pussy Cat CIC £1,000.

November 2023 – The Town Council agreed to become the Locally Trusted Organisation for Big Worle from April 2024 – March 2026, with the project due to finish September 2025.

November 2023 – SLA with YMCA renewed.

January 2024 – Grants awarded to: Donate a Defib £1,000, North Somerset LGBT+ Forum £1,000.

October 2024 – Grants awarded to: £500 1st Weston Village Scout Group, The Creative Thingy Wotsit CIC £500, £1,000 to Weston-super-Mare Allotment Club.

March 2025 – Town Council resolved to support City of Sanctuary UK vision, in becoming a welcoming place for all

May 2025 – Award of Design and Build contract for the creation of a Green Gym at Castle Batch, funded by Big Worle.

June 2025 – Weston BID awarded funding for 3 Dino Days sessions, Up to 3 Bike and Tightrope session, Up to 3 Safari adventure trail sessions

August 2025 – the Council of Sanctuary Start and Finish Group recommended to Finance and General Purposes Committee that the council of sanctuary scheme does not proceed further.

November 2025 – Weston-super-Mare Town Council adopted its own Armed Forces Covenant.

September 2023 – The Town council was awarded £9,000 to become the Anchor Organisation to administer grant funding to the community for the 'Shaping Places for Healthier Lives' fund.

November 2023 – £10,000 awarded to support Knife Angel programme of events in May 2024.

December 2023 – Approved to take the Waterpark Kiosk Operation in house starting April 2024.

February 2024 – Funding for the purchase of a defibrillator approved.

January 2025 – Grants awarded to: Read easy North Somerset £900, Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

April 2025 – Grants awarded to: Aishah's Food Charity £750, Fuchsia Cancer Support Group £250.

June 2025 – Council of Sanctuary Start and Finish Group created to discuss community feedback

July 2025 – Grants awarded to: E&J Wellbeing £540, The Notable Club £500, Vision North Somerset £951, Weston-super-Mare Pétanque Club £1,000.

August 2025 – following recommendation from Council of Sanctuary start and finish group, and consultation feedback, the council of sanctuary motion made in March 2025 was rescinded.

October 2025 – Grants awarded to: Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

January 2026 – Grants awarded to: Blessings in Action £990, North Somerset LGBT+ Forum £280.80, Weston Ark £500

February 2026

March 2020

A Bright Future

December 2020 – an 80% discount was offered to Visit Weston members.

February 2021 – Two Tuk Tuk vehicles were approved for purchase for use by Visit Weston in 2021.

June 2021 – an introductory offer for new businesses (Food & Beverage or Small non-essential business) was agreed at £99 for Visit Weston.

December 2022 – the planned and preventative maintenance programme of works for the year was approved.

May 2023 – New Council Administration welcomed to the Council.

July 2023 – The council resolved to readopt the General Power of Competence.

August 2023 – The Town Council became members of NALC/ALCA.

April 2024 – start of a wide scale community engagement exercise for the Old Town Quarry redevelopment project.

January 2026 – the North Somerset Council Community Governance Review was assessed by the council, with recommendations made.

February 2021 – an introductory offer was proposed for new businesses of one free year of advertising for a minimum of two years of commitment with Visit Weston.

June 2021 – the planned and preventative maintenance programme of works for the year was approved.

May 2022 – £200,000 CIL funds were earmarked for use on the Old Town Quarry.

March 2023 – options for streamlining the councils committee structure was reviewed.

June 2023 – Review of Blakehay theatre business model begun.

July 2023 – Decision made to run an annual staff survey.

November 2023 – Your Town Your Voice consultation exercise carried out across the town.

May 2025 – the Visit Weston Logo was amended

January 2026 – Transfer of the Silica from North Somerset Council to the Town Council was completed.

February 2026

Heritage, Arts and Culture

March 2020

October 2020 – Awarded £323,000 from Arts Council England for the Blakehay Theatre for Covid improvement measures including ventilation and electrical works.

November 2020 – discussions with NSC and the Civic Society continued regarding the future of the Old Town Quarry

November 2021 – Weston Museum able to open in school holidays on Sundays and Mondays

March 2022 – agreed to work in partnership with Culture Weston for the delivery of the annual literary festival.

July 2022 - SEE Monster arts installation arrived at the Tropicana and opened to the public in September 2022.

August 2022 – installation of a function kitchen at Weston Museum to enhance the events offer.

January 2023 – Contractor appointed for the refurbishment of 32 Waterloo Street.

June 2023 – Freedom of the Town given to 40 Commando Royal Marines.

October 2023 – 3-day Literary Festival with the theme “Every Story Counts”.

December 2023 – heads of terms for the Old Town Quarry approved.

March 2024 – Project Manager appointed for the Old Town Quarry refurbishment and community engagement project.

July 2024 – Lease for Old Town Quarry signed.

January 2025 – tender exercise begun to find a partner organisation to operate the Blakehay Theatre.

October 2020 – introduction of a cross service events group “Ever Forward”, comprising of Weston Museum, Blakehay Theatre and Visit Weston.

March 2021 – approval of the acquisition of the Old Town Quarry on a 35-Year lease.

November 2021 – Awarded £39,238 from Arts Council England for the Blakehay Theatre for continuity support, following the grant award in October 2020.

May 2022 – £200,000 CIL funds were earmarked for use on the Old Town Quarry.

July 2022 – Purchase of 32 Waterloo Street (new Town Council offices) complete.

December 2022 – Decision to relocate Town Council Civic Insignia from Grove House to Weston Museum.

February 2023 – 0-10-year strategic plan devised for the Old Town Quarry

June 2023 - Conclusion of Blue Plaque Scheme which focused on individuals of historical significance in Weston-super-Mare.

December 2023 – Awarded £699,992 from the Community Ownership Fund, alongside £200,000 Earmarked funds for a refurbishment project at the Old Town Quarry.

June 2024 – staff moved into 32 Waterloo Street.

October 2024 – building work began at Old Town Quarry.

Heritage, Arts and Culture - Continued

February 2025 – £27,500 was earmarked to allow a Summer and Christmas programme of events to be undertaken in liaison with Weston BID for the year 2025 / 2026

March 2025 – Weston Wallz 2025 - £25,000 agreed

April 2025 – Community Events Grants awarded to: Super Culture £10,000, Steepholmers Shanty Band £3,000, Reset £3,000

August 2025 – exploration of reinstallation of a kiln at the Quarry began

October 2025 - the Old Town Quarry Reopened to the public

December 2025 - a Blue Plaque commemorating Jill Dando was unveiled at 32 Waterloo Street, the previous home of the Weston Mercury.

January 2026 – Council agreed to submit a partnership bid for the Town of Culture 2028 competition.

February 2025 – Following lobbying from the Town Council, a bus service had been confirmed to include the Quarry.

March 2025 – Following the vacation of the Town Council offices from Grove Park, a new location of the Flag pole in The Italian Gardens was agreed

July 2025 – Community Events Grants awarded to: Evolve Music £1,000

September 2025 – Transfer of the Blakehay Theatre to Hub Weston CIC/CIO for operations under devolved management

October 2025 – Community Events Grants awarded to: In Between Time £8,475, Weston Artspace £3,438

January 2026 – Community Events Grants Awarded to: Growing @ Grove Park £2,150.

February 2026

**Weston-super-Mare
Town Council
Wards**

- North Worle Ward
- Mid Worle Ward
- South Worle Ward
- Worlebury Ward
- Hillside Ward
- Milton Ward
- Central Ward
- Winterstoke Ward
- Bournville Ward
- Uphill Ward



COUNCILLOR	PARTY	WARD
APLIN, Marc	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
ARMSTRONG, Ray	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
BAILEY, Roger	CONSERVATIVE	UPHILL
BELL, Mike	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL
BAMBRIDGE, Joe	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	WORLEBURY
BUTE, Gillian	CONSERVATIVE	UPHILL
CANNIFORD, Mark	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
CARSON, John	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
CHARD, Annabelle	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
CLAYTON, James	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
COLES, Jemma	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	MID WORLE
CREW, Peter	CONSERVATIVE	SOUTH WORLE
CROCKFORD-HAWLEY, John	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
CRONNELLY, Ciaran	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
GIBBONS, Catherine	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
HARRISON-MORSE, Simon	LABOUR	MILTON
JAMES, Owen	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
MALYAN, Hugh	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
PAYNE, Robert	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL
PEAK, Alan	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
PECAK-MICKLOWICZ, Justyna	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
PEPPERALL, Marcia	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
PILGRIM, Lisa	CONSERVATIVE	WORLEBURY
REYNOLDS, Caroline	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL

Weston-super-Mare Town Councillors 2023-2027

SKEEN, Robert	LABOUR	MILTON
STANDFIELD, John	CONSERVATIVE	MID WORLE
TAYLOR, Timothy	LABOUR	MILTON
THORNTON, Helen	LABOUR	UPHILL
TUCKER, Richard	LABOUR	MILTON
WILLIAMS, Charles	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
WILLIAMS, Martin	CONSERVATIVE	WORLEBURY

Strategy Evaluation	Reason	Type	Date	Consider by:	Strategy Film produced received by Committee
	Strategy Reviewed against committee resolutions		January 2022	Policy and Finance Committee 25/04/2022	Policy and Finance Committee 25/04/2022
	Strategy Reviewed against committee resolutions		March 2023	Expenditure and Governance 13 th July 2023	Expenditure and Governance 13 th July 2023
	Full Strategy Review including committee resolutions, Your Town Your Voice Consultation Exercise and Councillor Workshop		March 2023 - January 2025	Town Council Meeting 17 March 2025	N/a
	Strategy Reviewed against committee resolutions		March 2026	Finance and General Purposes 13 th April 2026	Annual Town Meeting 27 th April 2026