

	Full Council
Date	18 May 2026
Agenda Item	12

To consider the Action Plan

The latest version of the Action Plan that was adopted in 2024 but requires the attention of Councillors to ensure

- 1) what progress is being made,
- 2) What steps need to be taken to achieve the actions that remain incomplete
- 3) how relevant the plan remains and what may need to be added.

The document has been revised to a RAG Status to make it easier to monitor.

The presentation that was made at the Annual Town meeting by the CEO of Community 360 asked us to think about the following re-organisations:

- The eventual establishment of a Mayoral Authority for Essex
- The creation of the new, larger Unitary authority for North Essex
- The launch by the NHS of local commissioning of health services with more community engagement.

Each model will involve some form of local engagement with communities and, as such, with robust information, the Town Council would be best placed to represent the views of our residents. Current good practice suggests that to evidence our objectives for the Town we need to show how we have consulted with, listened to, and implanted to the best of our ability the wishes and feelings of our residents.

To achieve this, it is suggested that the Council engages in a “Big Conversation” that engages a small working group of community minded individuals to manage a consultation with residents through face to face and survey methods.

The project would be time limited to enable the Council to update and re-distribute the Action Plan by December 2026.

It may be possible to obtain grant aid to cover the costs of such an exercise. If not, a sum could be set aside in earmarked reserves for this purpose.

Recommendation :

1 that HTC review the Action Plan and consider what support may be required to move outstanding actions from Red.

2 That the Action Plan be reviewed by Full council every two months

3 That HTC explore the possibility of organising a "Big Conversation": led by a group of interested residents to complete a report by December 2026 and that a report be provided to full Council at the July meeting as to the recommended structure and membership of the working group along with terms of reference



Sarah Greateorex
Town Clerk

Note for information:

Extract from Standing Orders:

4. COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

a Unless the Council determines otherwise, a committee may appoint a sub-committee whose terms of reference and members shall be determined by the committee.

b The members of a committee may include non-councillors unless it is a committee which regulates and controls the finances of the Council.

c Unless the Council determines otherwise, all the members of an advisory committee and a sub-committee of the advisory committee may be non-councillors.