

State of Tamworth Debate (October 25th 2022)

[Note: Items in bold represent the top themes listed as important to residents in the 2021 Tamworth Residents Survey]

[Note: This focuses on the last 12-18 months and is in addition to other projects already running and business-as-usual work]

Corporate Priority	Issue/Actions	Achieved	Planned	Aspirational
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter & flytipping • Climate change • Recycling/garden waste charges • Improve green space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting hundreds of voluntary sector litter pickers • Flytipping fixed penalty notice issued • One Energy Hub grant to work with private landlords on minimum energy efficiency standards • Baseline carbon footprint for TBC activities established • Number of fully electric vehicles procured for StreetScene • Four fast EV charging points procured awaiting installation • New dual-stream recycling system implemented • New picnic benches in Dosthill & Castle Grounds • New Castle Grounds and Tinkers Green play areas • 11th Gold Bloom award • Jubilee Garden in Castle Grounds (won Bloom landscape award) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Street Issues reporting via Customer Portal to provide better intelligence • Social media campaign on how to report Street Issues (eg litter) • Decarbonisation Fund improving energy efficiency of 89 council homes in Hockley • Roll out dual stream recycling at multi-occ properties • Develop Climate Change Action Plan for how we will achieve net zero goals (by 2050) • New multi-use pitch at Castle Grounds (replace tennis courts) • Lakenheath play area and Lakeside refurb • Illegal encampment defences, Rene Rd and Pennymoor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter campaigns – ID hotspots, checking intelligence • Environmental ASB campaign • Launch of litter camera (amid operational issues, availability, cost) • Further energy efficiency improvements to council stock, incl solar

Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business initiatives to promote start up and growth • Tourism • Investment/offer • Provision of quality affordable housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business grants of £23million issued • New 3-year Economic Development workplan approved • Membership of Staffordshire DMP secured to raise town's profile • Several business support programmes run, including Peer Networks and SERCO • Business consultants appointed to support town centre businesses • New Cabinet portfolio for town centre and economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of The Flex – new flexible space for food & hospitality start-ups (Middle Entry, FHSF) • £2.3m Shared Prosperity Fund investment plan submitted • New town centre grants schemes • Appoint new town centre business support advisor • New fund for town centre and tourism projects (£10k pa) • Tourism and Place Investment Strategy to be commissioned • New social housing at Wilnecote Day Centre and Caledonian. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing wider regeneration aims ie Gungate North (Levelling Up Fund bid) • Creation of online Tamworth Town Centre Business Hub for training information • Develop Empty Homes Strategy
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review transport links and connectivity (buses) – traffic • Improvements to roads/potholes • Parking charges are too high • Improvements to walkways/cycling • Too much development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New parking machines installed • Strategic CIL pot allocated for public realm work • 45k enquiries dealt with by Customer Services • Face-to-face Customer Service being delivered from TIC to support vulnerable residents • MyTamworth and MyHousing customer portals launched 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use data from new parking machines to review parking strategy • Local Plan review to assess impact of infrastructure and development • Continuing to work with neighbouring authorities regarding building on borders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit Gateways project around Tamworth train station • Revisit Corporation Street improvement project • 5G rollout

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve digital access to TBC services – access to face-to-face support 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New location(s) for council services/back office 	
Living in Tamworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pride of Place • Improve and promote cultural assets • Fear of crime/drugs/ lack of police visibility • Access to services • Investing in neighbourhoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New portfolio focused on raising Civic Pride, including launch of first successful community awards • Reopened Assems with packed programme & new cinema • Castle lighting • Castle Visitor Award • New AR Heritage Trail • Digitalisation of the castle collection • Closer working relationship with police & partners to address fear of crime, including member workshop • All CCTV cameras now upgraded • ASB Housemark accreditation renewed • Dementia Friendly Community status re-confirmed • Grant provided to Betterway Recovery for alcoholism peer support • Working with MPFT for a dedicated mental health officer for housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estate improvements & landscaping • Employment of an ASB Youth Engagement Officer to work in ‘hotspots’ • Develop positive diversionary activities • Community Safety Strategic Assessment to identify priorities and inform new plans • Appoint Community Cohesion Officer • Develop homelessness advice hub for face-to-face support • Extend Winter Relief project to all year • New affordable charging policy for temporary accommodation • Housing Services self-assessment, ready for new social housing regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore options for future of Castle assets ie Coach House • New engagement events to increase visibility of CSP partners • ‘Housing First’ pilot, providing all-round support for tenants • Support for homeowners with mortgage rescue • Roll out enhanced Decent Homes Standard+ for council stock • Explore creation of new neighbourhood impact team

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Relief Project (support for rough sleepers) • New Neighbourhood coach and mental health nurse • New specialist temporary accommodation units • Zero B&B usage 		
Town Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the market • Enhance night-time economy • Develop outdoor events programme • Town centre accessibility • Improve leisure and food offer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New regular food festivals as part of improved market • Grant given to Street Angels • Successful Castle Summer Fest and Commonwealth Games events • FHSF – planning applications approved (Peel Café, College and TEC2) • New Transforming Tamworth website and FB group for businesses • Gungate – heads of terms for housing agreed • New interpretation panels and way-finding now in situ • Responsible Bodies Group (town centre and licensed premises partners) • Carnegie Centre let out and reopened as restaurant • Free training scheme for food and drink businesses • New Food & Drink Trail • Castle Gatehouse kiosk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Editha’s Square regeneration to facilitate improved markets and events • Co-op demolition • Tender out for TEC2 • Campaign with licensees around violence against women & girls • Supporting police with town centre Safer Nights campaign • Build on success of Castle Summer Fest • Park Run for Tamworth • Phased programme of refurbishments to Town Hall to create a more usable space for civic meetings & activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple Flag Award (create safe and thriving locations at night for all users) • A wider variety of food and drink businesses (Flex space Middle Entry) • Taxi marshals • New town centre schemes to focus on hospitality & leisure

<p>Organisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of consultation and no change follows • Offices not open • Mistrust of councillors (who are they?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second annual Residents Survey completed (600+ responses) • Meetings recorded and published – increased visibility • Outreach work commissioned for CAB at Heart of Tamworth • Town Hall established as municipal hub • New Cabinet portfolio for engagement, including Citizens Panel, public consultation and member comms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New MTFs (& uncertainty around planned Fair Funding Review/ Business Rates reset impact on funding levels & current economic cost pressures) • 3rd sector support and vulnerability – working up projects for UKSPF • Developing new commissioning framework for voluntary sector • Looking at cost of living campaigns with voluntary sector • HRA business plan • Acceleration of Marmion House decommissioning • Raising profile of members on TBC website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenant involvement in new Housing and Homelessness Sub Committee (tenants at heart of decision-making) • More customers feel confident to access services digitally, ie through MyTamworth portal
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