

Appendix A – Summary Delivery Highlights

Clean and Green – a new Net Zero Strategy with a goal to become a Net Zero county by 2045 and a new Leicestershire Climate and Nature Pact. A successful joint bid with Midlands Connect that is delivering 100 electric vehicle charging sockets across Leicestershire. Launching Green Living Leicestershire and Solar Together to support vulnerable and other households and those at risk of fuel poverty to reduce bills by installing energy efficiency measures. Researching how community energy can support Net Zero and launching a new Net Zero Toolkit for community groups. Shire environment grants to local projects to reduce carbon emissions and our first zero-carbon primary school. Promoting sustainable tourism and a new sustainable tourism plan.

Continuing our Net Zero Council Action Plan which has reduced our own emissions by over 70% since 2008/09 with new measures to modernise our headquarters and other properties to reduce carbon by 380 tonnes a year including solar panels and air source heat pumps. Progressing work on our new solar farm near Quorn. Working with district councils we have ensured the County doesn't miss out on Government funding allocated to install energy efficiency measures in homes most in need of support. As a result, more than £3m will be spent making Leicestershire's homes warmer and tackling rising energy prices.

Shire environment grants supporting local projects to improve biodiversity. Planting more than 250,000 trees towards our target of 700,000 across the county and planning a new tree nursery to supply 20,000 trees a year, as well as actions to tackle Ash tree dieback and distributing trees to landowners. Improving and restoring grasslands, ecology work at Beacon Hill Park and award-winning work to boost biodiversity on roadside verges. An updated Leicestershire Waste Strategy and initiatives to reduce waste to landfill and new contract to treat residual waste. Campaigns including to reduce waste contamination and on correct battery disposal. Improvements to Kibworth Waste site and new collection points for medical equipment at Loughborough and Whetstone. Composting bins, theatre sessions, reducing food waste including cooking classes and making the most from leftovers, restoration work and environment grants for projects supporting waste prevention.

Strong Economy – in March 2023 we helped the new East Midlands Freeport (EMF) to formally launch. Space Park Leicester the customs site operator is supporting the Freeport's focus on driving innovation and skills. With 533 hectares of prime strategic development land at 3 sites the EMF will create thousands of high-quality new jobs in the region and boost the East Midlands economy by £8.4bn. The EMF is also driving the low carbon and renewable energy and advanced manufacturing and logistics sectors. EMF approval released £25m of funding to deliver infrastructure and investment projects and a Hydrogen Skills Academy.

We approved plans to create 120+ jobs by unlocking land at Leaders Farm, Lutterworth. Progressed plans to deliver 2,750 homes, primary schools, community hub, retail centre and commercial space east of Lutterworth. Through our Investing in Leicestershire Programme we are investing c£43m in 2023-27 to facilitate delivery of affordable and quality homes and generate economic growth as well as renewable energy. The programme generated £5.8m to support Council services in 2022/23. Supporting 3 Enterprise Zones underpinning research and development in the county. Our Place Marketing Team secured funding to support a variety of promotion activities. Continuing to support business in partnership with the LLEP through the Business Hub and providing business advisers to support the recovery from Covid. Tourism activity surpassed 2019 levels with 30m visitors generating £2.07bn for the local economy. We also continued to support creative businesses through securing part of £1.3m to increase capacity of creative businesses and opportunity to bid for a further £7m funding for Create Growth.

Working to bring gigabit capable broadband to 43 rural sites across the county by March 2024 through Project Gigahubs. Supporting the wider Project Gigabit Programme rollout to ensure 85% coverage by 2025. Working with Openreach to gain community pledges from 25 rural villages to build full-fibre broadband infrastructure through Fibre Community Partnerships.

Skills – investigating Skills Bootcamps to provide intensive training to help upskill the workforce. A new agreement with universities to work to tackle economic growth. Progressing the £3m Multiply Programme to improve basic numeracy skills with hundreds of free courses over 3 years. The Kickstart Scheme with work placements for 16–24-year-olds. Work and Skills Leicestershire offering support and advice to anyone seeking paid employment, training and volunteering, with personalised work plans. Hundreds of part-time, evening and weekend courses through GoLearn and our Adult Learning Service. Continuing to support apprentices employed by the Council as well as other local employers. Participation in Adult Learning programmes increased by 5% over the academic year to 5930 enrolments. Over 1500 adults attended English, Maths and Digital skills programmes. Our Essential Digital Skills courses have continued to provide opportunities for adults to gain confidence and become more independent.

Transport – major construction work commenced on the north and east Melton Mowbray distributor road to reduce congestion and support new homes and employment growth in the town. Progressing plans to deliver major road improvements to 8 junctions on the A511 between Ashby and Coalville to connect with housing developments which will deliver 3,500 new homes. A package of road improvements in Hinckley which will mean smoother and more efficient journeys. £19.3m invested in Highways Asset Maintenance including £14.2m on carriageways and £2m on footways and rights of way. In May 2023 we agreed an extra £3m for fixing and maintaining roads, cycle paths and pavements. A significant surface dressing programme over the summer. We remain amongst the highest rated counties for satisfaction with condition of highways.

Being awarded £1.78m to help support public transport, particularly in rural areas. Delivering an Enhanced Bus Partnership to improve services and passenger experience. Our Fox Connect 3 year mini-bus trial covering 18 villages in south-west Leicestershire has seen a positive start with 10,837 passenger journeys. Supporting work to electrify the Midland Mainline. Developing cycling and walking plans for North of Leicester, Melton Mowbray, Loughborough, South of Leicester and Oadby. Training sessions and vouchers for e-bikes.

Great Communities – over 500 households supported to open their homes to 1000 Ukrainian guests. Achieving £760k funding to support access to culture through a programme of activities to 2026. All heritage sites being rated excellent by Visit England with 3 sites receiving special accolades. A variety of exhibitions and displays of archaeological finds. Development and greater promotion of the county's tourism offer. A new green flag award for Watermead Country Park to go with retained ones for Beacon Hill and Snibston Colliery Park. New parkruns at our parks to support community volunteering and physical activity. Planting Platinum Jubilee trees in honour of the Queen as well as a service of thanks giving and honouring the armed forces as well as re-signing The Armed Forces Covenant.

Supporting volunteers in a range of roles and activities and being awarded the Investing in Volunteers Award. Our Community Fridges had 42,000kg of waste food donated and redistributed to 11,452 visitors. New volunteer run wellbeing cafes supporting parents and children. A policy officer post established to develop volunteering and coordinate best practice. More than 900 volunteers have dedicated over 10,000 hours in 2022/23. The Friendly Communities of Leicestershire initiative, developed with our Public Health Service, is also tackling loneliness and social isolation in communities.

A range of cultural projects and resources to support community cohesion and diversity. Being placed in the top 100 LGBTQ+ friendly employers in the UK and promoting a range of equalities positive action measures. A new Senior Policy Officer for anti-racism developing an Anti-Racism Strategy and work with communities. Piloting a new on-line community engagement platform, Social Pinpoint. 31 library and heritage service projects co-created with communities. Work with communities on community resilience development with 59 active Community Response Plan holders and participating in national resilience exercises Flood Ex 2022 and Exercise Mighty Oak.

Improved Opportunities – £22m of support from the Government's Household Support Fund has been made available to help ease cost of living pressures including emergency food and fuel support and free school meal vouchers during the holidays. In addition, free holiday clubs, gym passes and coaching sessions were offered for summer 2023 for those requiring extra support, our biggest ever offering of free holiday clubs. Events and promotion around the importance of the first 1001 critical days in life. Opening 9 out of 25 Family Hubs across the county so far, a one stop shop

for parents and carers to support the Best Start for life and a Maternity and Early Years Strategy development. Support for children not achieving milestones at age 2. Training on communication and language and a variety of resources to support child development such as bookstart, story explorer bags and the summer reading challenge. Promotion of free childcare opportunities.

Expanding support for families experiencing domestic abuse through our Children and Family Wellbeing Service, which also provides targeted early help to families. Providing intensive keyworker support to families with more complex needs. An Early Help Partnership and Strategic Plan to develop the early help system. The Reducing Parental Conflict Programme. Ofsted has praised our Children's Services following a recent 'focused visit' inspection, for support for children in their care. Our Defining Children and Family Services for the Future programme is working to deliver outcomes alongside the Social Care Investment Programme (SCIP) in partnership with Barnardo's. We have been successful in obtaining additional grant funding to invest in nine properties and up to 27 placements, with several units planned to be operational this financial year.

Supporting transformation of SEND services through securing £1m government funding and our Transforming SEND in Leicestershire programme. Being selected to pilot the national SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan. Developing an accelerated progress plan on the quality of EHC Plans including SENA service remodelling and work on the backlog of EHC needs assessments and Annual Reviews. Delivering 2,179 additional pupil places and 105 SEND places. School improvement work including activities to develop the quality of teaching and learning, particularly for under-performing groups to narrow the gap, including a 2-year Education Endowment Fund project. A model of high-quality peer reviews within school groups, collaborative school groups and 289 training opportunities. Creative Learning Services delivered 77,650 books and 900 project collections.

Through the Education, Employment and Training Strategy we have invested in targeted careers advice and guidance for 16- to 18-year-olds. This year we are focusing on vulnerable groups including Care Leavers. The use of Pupil Premium Plus allocated to support children in care's education and aspirations. The work of our Virtual School extended to support our post 16 cohort in education, employment and training and a new post created to focus on this cohort.

Safe and Well – a new Community Safety Strategy to 2026 tackling a range of crime and disorder priorities. Launch of a new Domestic Abuse Team offering early help to families and adults causing harm and to families affected by domestic abuse. Anti-Social Behaviour work to ensure perpetrators are managed and vulnerable victims are supported. Work to ensure compliance with statutory duties around Prevent (Counter Terrorism) such as the new venue hire policy "Martyn's Law". Our LLR Hate Reduction Strategy Statement updated and adopted to ensure vulnerable victims are

supported. Providing an extra £100,000 to continue rolling out community speed cameras. Our pioneering School Streets initiative to create safer streets and improve air quality began new trials at Leicestershire schools. Our Safeguarding Children Partnership continues work to respond to emerging risks, such as safeguarding babies and launched an evidenced-based programme focused on reducing abusive head trauma triggered by crying. In relation to adult safeguarding, we have progressed priorities for 2022/23 on Hidden Harm and Care Homes.

Public Health - launching a new Healthy Workplaces Leicestershire programme to help businesses and organisations become healthier places to work. We are also embedding a Health in All Policies approach across the Council. A free 12-week weight management course to help men get back in shape and lose weight was launched. Examined health inequalities in Leicestershire, identified the populations and areas most at risk of the poorest outcomes and set out actions for improvement. Recommissioned a health trainers service for adult offenders on community orders. Successfully recommissioned a substance misuse treatment service more tailored to the needs of Leicestershire residents and secured grant funding to enhance drug treatment and harm reduction services. Our award-winning Good Food Leicestershire service continued work to tackle issues from food poverty to diet-related ill-health. Help has also been made available to men in Leicestershire looking to lose weight, exercise more and eat healthily. We also implemented a new healthy weight strategy and action plan and are working with health partners to pilot a tier 3 weight management service.

Adult Social Care – our Care Technology team has installed 3293 pieces of equipment with 1251 users of the service. 97% of customers said that the technology made them feel more safe and secure. The age of young people in transition we work with has reduced to 17, and we deliver positive work through the young adult disability team. Our Hospital Discharge Grant for Carers has provided people with grants to help people discharged to home. Over 40 working-age adults moved out of residential settings into more independent settings and 100 fewer older adults were permanently placed in residential homes per year. Significant additional funding was allocated to support vulnerable people to pay for more home and residential care and support people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health needs. Our Inspired to Care Team were a finalist for the Outstanding Contribution to Social Care Award in the East Midlands. A new 2-year Better Care Fund Plan worth £75.7m in 2023/24 agreed jointly with the NHS to deliver more integrated health and social care. Our Joint LLR Carers Strategy was also refreshed.

The Transforming Care Partnership has worked to ensure services for those with Learning Disabilities (including Autism) join up and won an award for good working practices. We established a Complex Needs Accommodation Board to work to support people with a primary mental health need. This is helping identify homes in the community and maintain existing tenancies. Working with the NHS we relaunched a Mental Health Wellbeing and Recovery Support Service which will see £1m a year invested over five

years to provide advice, guidance, and support for people's emotional and mental health. We are running pilot projects in 3 neighbourhoods which aim to look at how we can build upon strengths within the individual with Mental Health Issues and how the local community can help meet their needs. We also opened a new supported living scheme for people with mental health as a support need.