

2025-26 Work Programme & Budget

Community Engagement & Development (dept 100)					
Leads: Nikki Cox & Hannah Stopford					
Aim: To improve the wellbeing and resilience of our community and the organisations that support them.				Income 2025-26	Expenses 2025-26
				£0	£294,040
Vision: A strong, connected community with resilient neighbourhoods where residents have the agency to create and access what they need.					
Project: Continue to develop the Hub model	Promote hub offers, and signpost residents to access available support.				
	Underwriting CHARIS contract and attached advisors, ESOL support and volunteers - subject to final Council approval (Jun25-Mar26)				£44,000
	Use of General Reserves for underwriting CHARIS contract			£44,000	
	Support statutory and non-statutory organisations to find spaces to deliver services and to support and signpost residents effectively				£2,500
Project: Engage with residents at a street and neighbourhood level to build cohesion and resilience by working together on community-led projects		Engage with residents in either targeted neighbourhoods (due to deprivation or need), or responsive areas (due to shared issues or spaces). Reaching 'easy-to-ignore' people by door-knocking or pop-ups, at events and by partnership working. Create opportunities to activate existing strengths (people/skills/venues/connections) and support & facilitate action to tackle local problems.			£4,500
		Use of SALC EMR 321		£4,400	
Project: Empower communities to identify gaps, strengths and assets and to take action or resolve conflict themselves		Support Let's Talk volunteers to deliver a community offer for enabling conflict resolution via training and case work			£800
		Support Neighbourhood Network and Transition Streets initiatives			
Vision: Community organisations are supported to meet Frome’s needs, be self sufficient and work together and adapt to change.					
Project: Support and build capacity for community organisations		Provide and commission training, guidance, resource sharing and networking opportunities for the wider community support offer			£5,000
		Support partners and community organisations to share good inclusive practice			
		Convene relevant forums and communities of practice around emerging needs to identify gaps; enabling statutory and non-statutory organisations to work together to fill them and avoid overlaps – e.g. Young People, Volunteer co-ordination; mental health.			
		Work with key partners on our shared objectives around health, education and children and young people e.g. Somerset Connect			
Vision: Residents feel included in the life of the town.					
Project: Embed inclusive and accessible practices and processes, internally and with partners		Explore a process to assess and monitor equalities impact of the work of FTC			
Project: Increase opportunities for meaningful engagement and ways for all voices to be heard and for residents to influence local decision making		Work alongside Children and Young People to hear their voice and contribute to the development of meaningful services, local decisions and projects e.g. Devolution, Climate Action Plan, post-16 offer, Movement Strategy.			£5,000
		Enable collaboration and commission initiatives that strengthen the children and young peoples offer in Frome and the surrounding areas (localised and free at the point of access)			£4,000
		Explore ways to increase participation in decision making processes within the council for example through deliberative processes and a Citizens Assembly in 2026/27			£15,000
Project: Embed the inclusive play strategy across the town especially in our parks and open spaces		Continue to work alongside and commission internal and external partners to develop the inclusive and intergenerational play offers across Frome			£6,000
		Respond to the recommendations of the play strategy review			
Vision: FTC teams are supported with community engagement to deliver their outcomes					
Work collaboratively with other FTC teams to deliver collaborative and engagement processes to deliver their outcomes		A specific focus this year on: New Open Spaces, Devolution Projects, Climate Action Plan.			
Staff team	Communities staff team (net of CHARIS staff as either grant funded or included in budget above 100-7984)	Partnership Lead, Engagment Lead, two Community Officers, Children & Young Peoples Officer			£207,240
		TOTAL		£0	£294,040
Community Engagement & Development (dept 100)					

Community Grants (dept 101)

Project: Support community organisations to access appropriate funding	Fair Frome Grant		£15,000
	Deploy and develop the community grants programme		£80,000
	Work with partners to explore innovative funding models		
		£0	£95,000
	Community Grants (dept 101)		

2025-26 Work Programme & Budget

Climate Emergency & Resilience (dept 300)			
Lead: Matt Mellen			
Aim: To co-ordinate town action to mitigate and adapt to climate change		Income 2025-26	Expenses 2025-26
		£6,000	£141,499
Objective: ENGAGE & ACT - Enable individuals and organisations to make changes that contribute towards a net zero carbon Frome in 2030 and make a difference to their health, wellbeing and economic sustainability			
Research and understand the impacts of climate and ecological breakdown on Frome, what initiatives have been successful to date and how we can encourage behaviour and system change.	Review of current science and projections and what this means for Frome.		
	Commission review of climate scenarios and risks for Frome.		£2,000
	Review success of initiatives. build understanding into future planning.		
	Create visual assets and other resources showing how climate change might impact Frome over the coming years and to show how a future, more resilient town might look.		£2,000
	Frome Climate Action Fund - Create a pot for micro grant giving for new climate initiatives in the town - e.g. £5k		£5,000
Through community engagement develop a new and ambitious town-wide climate action plan (CAP)and coordinate actions by organisations in the town to implement it. Put in place an evaluation framework.	Work with Green and Healthy Frome to plan a way forward to keep as much of the positive activities operational as possible.		
	Involve schools in climate action. Capture concerns of young people. Enable them to input into the Town's new CAP.		
	Use of Sustainability EMR 341	£6,000	
	Roll out our community engagement plan including a series of external events to involve the town in developing our new CAP.		£6,000
	Co-ordinate organisations, lead actions, enable innovation and collaboration. Establish and coordinate a Climate Action Working Group.		
	Develop a new and ambitious town-wide adaptation and mitigation strategy - our CAP.		
Support organisations working in climate action in Frome to access grants and other sources of funding. Develop a scheme to provide grant funding for community action building on the new town-wide climate action plan.	Research, identify and apply for relevant grants.		
	PILOT IDEA - Frome Climate Action Fund - Create a pot for micro grant giving for new climate initiatives in the town - e.g. £5k		
Develop and implement a communications plan that encourages individuals and organisations to make changes	Work with comms team, key partners and key stakeholders to develop plan.		
	Printing for posters / stickers.		£500
Objective: ENERGY - Enable the scaling up of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation			
Engage the local community including those already working in this field to imagine how our neighbourhoods might be retrofitted and adapted and the EPC rating of homes can be improved.  Raise the profile of retro-fit.	Assess Frome's housing stock and find the homes most in need of energy upgrades.		
	Explore new tech opportunities and partnerships including - apps, AI and new retrofit businesses.		
	Produce home energy events with partners. Help coordinate a plan to upskill the local workforce and create database of trusted suppliers.		£1,000
	PILOT IDEA - Retro-fit house warming parties - facilitate and enable gatherings in homes that have been retrofitted, invited neighbours to inspire others to get involved.		£1,000
	PILOT IDEA - A retro-fit road show - visit markets, village gatherings (LCN). (SALC Wellbeing grant?)		£1,000
	PILOT IDEA - Develop a retrofit home walking tour / open house event series. See Green Open Homes.		£1,000
Investigate the opportunities to install solar on public and commercial buildings in Frome at scale	Event to present options to businesses on industrial parks and marketing materials to promote scheme.		
Frome Green Energy	Work with FRECo and others to help explore the potential of community owned wind turbines for the town.		
Objective: FOOD - Develop food resilience through a thriving local food network and an increase in the amount of food consumed in Frome that is grown in Frome			
Promote and support food resilience initiatives and strategies developed through the Frome Food Network and other organisations	Connect and support - explore how Frome becomes more resilient from a food point of view		
	Community Fridge housed at Loop de Loop building for no charge.		

Objective: TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT - Encourage greater take up of active travel and sustainable transport			
Encourage greater take up of active travel and sustainable transport.	Deliver 18-month Frome Safer School Streets trial, including programme of engagement with residents and schools, community activities and events		£1,500
	Continue to engage schools and the wider community in the lead up to decisions about the future of the scheme beyond the 18 month trial		£1,500
Objective: MATERIALS & WASTE - Develop a circular economy in Frome, reducing the amount of waste leaving Frome and encouraging reuse and recycling.			
Explore potential Re-use Centre. Promote and support circular economy initiatives developed through local community organisations	Work with Somerset Council and other partners to find a site for a reuse centre.		
	Promote re-use centre		
Staff team	Climate Action Lead 80%, Resilience Officer 80%, Resilience Comms Officer (PT) 100%		£118,999
		TOTAL	£6,000
300 - Climate & Ecological Emergencies		Climate & Ecological Emergencies (dept 300)	£141,499

2025-26 Work Programme & Budget

Green & Healthy Frome (Lotto) (dept 301)			
Lead: Matt Mellen			
Aim: Frome's Green & Healthy Frome project funded by a Lotto grant and in partnership with Edventure and Frome Medical Practice, focuses on providing resources and funding for healthy homes, energy efficiency, cycling initiatives, and evaluations, all under the Green and Healthy Frome. This project runs for three years from March 2023 to March 2026.		Income 2025-26	Expenses 2025-26
		£75,000	£84,705
Objective: Provide through the Green and Healthy Frome partnership, Healthy Homes, Evaluation, Cycle Together			
Healthy Homes	Healthy Homes energy advice		£3,000
	Provide Retrofit Assessments and ongoing support to 60 Frome & parish households		
	City & Guilds training for volunteers		£1,000
	Retrofit Assessor training/ software		£4,465
	Payments to Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) to provide energy advice and support to Retrofit project		£28,691
Cycle Together	Payments to Frome Community Bike Project		£11,928
Evaluation	Focus group expenses, incentives, transcription		£3,835
GHF comms	GHF comms		£9,949
Lotto Climate Action Fund	Green & Healthy Frome Grant Income (net of salary grants)	£75,000	
Staff team	Climate Action Lead 20%, Resilience Officer 20% (Lotto grant funded staff not incl - Evaluator and Energy Advice Champions co-ordinator)		£21,837
		TOTAL	£75,000£84,705
301 - Green & Healthy Frome	Green & Healthy Frome (dept 301)		

2025-26 Work Programme & Budget

Town Centre (dept 600)				
Leads: Peter Wheelhouse & Rachel Griffin				
Aim: To progress several key initiatives that will improve the vibrancy of the Town Centre			Income 2025-26	Expenses 2025-26
			£21,800	£289,761
Objective: Improve the image, experience and pride in the town centre encouraging more residents and visitors to visit and use its facilities				
Project: Improve the appearance of the Town Centre	Employ a half-time Town Centre Officer to: develop a ten point action plan for the Town Centre; co-ordinate activity to improve the appearance and vibrancy of the town centre; bring businesses together to explore a Business Improvement District (BID) and address the fragmentation of commercial waste operations.			£33,000
	Use of Saxonvale EMR 356		£20,000	
	Maintain, improve and repair capital items in the public realm following Town Centre Officer's ten point action plan.			£20,000
	Bring businesses together to address the fragmentation of commercial waste collection and identify ways in which commercial bins can be screened.			£10,000
	Improve the public realm with programme of maintenance delivered by Town Centre Ranger.			£10,000
	Explore with Somerset Council how the streets are kept clean and street furniture and other aspects of the public domain are well maintained and improved. Negotiate delivery of a premium service if required.			£25,000
Project: Encourage the occupation of empty shops and other vacancies	Work with landlords, community groups and independent businesses to encourage short term 'pop-ups', meanwhile uses and community use of premises. Encourage Somerset Council to streamline their business rates procedures to make this easy.			
Project: Town Centre Events	Continue our work with event organisers and producers to develop an exciting events programme - events listed in Mktg & Comms Events.			
	Deliver Christmas events/Lantern Parade			£13,500
	Deliver Christmas lights and tree			£16,250
Project: Promote the town and its events to residents and visitors	Income from sales at DF & Town Hall		£1,800	
	Promote Town Events			
	Discover Frome website & social media - hosting and maintenance			£2,000
	Produce town maps including new information boards in town centre			£5,000
	Discover Frome Information Point			£6,000
	Discover Frome Information Point volunteers			£1,700
	Purchase of saleable stock			£1,200
	Continue to market Frome as an exciting business base for ethical, green, socially-engaged businesses			
	Developing relationship with local and regional tourist attractions			£2,000
	The Annual - deliver the annual in partnership with businesses and The List			£1,000
	Draft a strategy to support the arts, heritage and events community through strategic links and partnerships			£2,500
Project: Promote active travel and sustainable transport to encourage visits to Frome	Continue to promote walking and cycling			
	Promote buses and trains including production of integrated bus maps on bus stops			£5,000
	Promote guided walking tours			
Project: Maintain the You're Welcome project	Administer Community Loo projects ensuring that there are a number of loos throughout the town in businesses that are open and accessible to the community			£1,500
Project: Footfall Data	Contracted service to collect data			£2,000
Staff team	Deputy Town Clerk 50%, Town Centre Ranger, Marketing & Tourism Asst, DF Volunteer Co-ordinator, Event Support Stewards (Town Centre Officer listed separately above)			£132,111
		TOTAL	£21,800	£289,761
600 - Town Centre		Town Centre (dept 600)		

2025-26 Work Programme & Budget

Marketing & Communications (dept 800)				
Lead: Rachel Griffin				
Aim: To foster an informed, engaged, and cohesive community in Frome by delivering innovative communications, participatory initiatives, and inclusive events that strengthen collaboration, celebrate Frome, and support decision-making for a thriving town			Income 2025-26	Expenses 2025-26
			£160,000	£235,862
Objective: Inform and engage residents around the work of the council to encourage participation.				
Project: FTC communications	Review of the marketing and communication strategy & engagement			
	Inform and engage the town in FTC's work & decision-making			
	FTC Website+ digital tools - keep up to date and accurate information			£2,700
	Work with partners to creat an easy read leaflet - what does Frome Town Council do?			£5,000
	Deliver and support events, meetings and activities - including shaping, marketing, ticketing and communicating			£2,200
	Implement programme of digital communications utilising social media with measurable results			£1,150
	Deliver digital newsletters to support areas across the work			
	Summer placement to support the workload			£1,000
	Support projects across the work programme			£3,350
	Recruit and support a team of noticeboard ambassadors (volunteers) to deliver information across the town			
	Create engaging branding, collateral and media assets as required			
	Work with Somerset Council to develop new iteration of FIND			
Project: Support a programme of activity that enables people living and working in Frome to participate and engage in decision making	Invest in a digital platform to support participatory decision making, for example Go Vocal			£5,000
	Promote and support FTC meetings and digital engagement tools across the wider work programme.			
	Programme of town meetings			
Objective: Events & engagement activities to bring the community together, and promote community cohesion				
Project: Support delivery of Town Events	Enable community events in Parks and open Spaces supporting process and permissions			
	Enable community to access Boyle Cross supporting process and permissions particularly around market stalls			
	Deliver a programme of events in the town. Identify and support opportunities as they arise in step with our strategic objectives			£26,000
	Event workwear and sundries			£5,000
	Recruit and deliver a team of support stewards to operate in the town hall and at external events			
Project: Ensure that the Town Hall is safe, accessible, clean, fit for purpose and well used	Ensure quality stewardship			
	Manage cleaning/caretaking team			
	Ensure all risk actively managed			
	Promotion of the Hub			
Staff team	Mktg & Comms Mgr 80%, 2 Mktg & Comm Officers, Events Administrator, Mktg Asst, Events Stewards			£184,462
		TOTAL	£0	£235,862
800 - Core Comms & Marketing	Core Comms & Marketing (dept 800)			