

Vale 2030 – Strong Communities with a Bright Future

Vale 2030 is an ambitious and exciting five year plan for change for the Vale. We are confident that by working with our communities and partners to deliver our five objectives we will have stronger communities with a brighter future.

Objective 1 - Creating Great Places to Live, Work and Visit

What we will do – our actions

We will continue to work with residents, businesses and wider communities on our work around placemaking and to maximise the opportunities from investment and regeneration and we will deliver a Replacement Local Development Plan. We will ensure there are accessible and affordable homes for those who need them and we will also make the best use of funding for leisure, arts and cultural activities.

What this will mean – what we will deliver

People in the Vale feel more connected, safe, and proud of their communities, with access to quality housing, services and facilities. There will be more local employment, strong businesses, and good working relationships between the Council and others offering opportunities for healthier lifestyles, cultural experiences, and volunteering.

Objective 2 - Respecting and Celebrating the Environment

What we will do – our actions

We will reduce our carbon emissions and support others to do the same. We will raise awareness about the importance of protecting the environment and focus on the changes needed to how we travel, the energy we use, the waste we create and food we produce and eat, understanding the impact these choices have on the environment. We will help to protect our communities from the impact of flooding and coastal erosion.

What this will mean – what we will deliver

The Vale will be a clean, green, and sustainable place with a healthier environment that supports biodiversity, where the Council leads efforts to tackle climate and nature emergencies with everyone playing their part. People will enjoy more energy-efficient homes, schools, and Council buildings, well-maintained parks and green spaces. Recycling rates will be among the best in Wales and waste levels will be reduced. Sustainable transport will be the norm. More people will travel sustainably. Our goal is to become a net zero organisation by 2030 and help the country reach net zero by 2050.

Objective Three - Giving Everyone a good start in life

What we will do – our actions

We will support children and families from early childhood to live confident and healthy lives. Working in partnership we will offer the help needed and community-focused schools. We will improve school

attendance, learner outcomes and support better Social, Emotional and Mental Health. Those with Additional Learning Needs will be supported locally and in their language of choice. We will also offer information and services through our libraries and Play teams and provide activities in and out of school for learning and fun.

What this will mean – what we will deliver

Fewer children in the Vale will live in poverty, and their health and well-being will improve. Families will be better supported to stay together where safe to do so, with families having access to free, early years advice and support. Schools will act as hubs for their communities, and young people will have a voice in decisions that matter to them.

Objective four - Supporting and Protecting those who Need us

What we will do – our actions

We will ensure residents who need extra help can access it, working across social care, housing, and health to be more joined up with our services. We will work in partnership to prevent and address poverty, providing services and support to help people before they face a crisis.

What this will mean – what we will deliver

People will be able to easily access the services they need close to home. Carers will feel valued, and people will live independently in their own homes for longer, enjoying a better quality of life, while levels of homelessness and loneliness will decrease. Fewer children will need to enter care, and outcomes for children in care will improve. Everyone will have access to good quality, healthy food every day.

Objective five - Being the Best Council We Can Be

What we will do – our actions

We will provide quality services and continue to improve how we work by finding new ways to do things to ensure services continue despite financial challenges. We will provide more opportunities for people to shape services and to understand how and why decisions are made. By investing in technology, our buildings and our workforce we will continue to improve our services

What this will mean – what we will deliver

The Council will be a customer-focused organisation, open to change, delivering services that meet the needs of residents in the way that they can easily access them. People will feel listened to and better understand the Council's role and decision-making processes and be confident that the Council provides quality services and good value for money.