

Thursday, 18 July 2024

Report of the Leader of the Council

Corporate Plan 2025 - 2030 Development Timeline

Purpose

To advise members of the emerging Corporate Plan and seek approval for the programme of consultation to finalise its development.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Cabinet approve the proposed timeline and process for the creation of the new corporate plan as set out in Appendix 1.

Executive Summary

The council's current corporate plan period ends in March 2025.

A new corporate plan for 2025 to 2030 that sets out the Council's vision and priorities needs to be created in advance of the end of the current plan period and considered in line with the development of the medium-term financial strategy (MTFS) to ensure its viability and deliverability.

This report outlines the suggested timeframe and process for the compilation of the council's new corporate plan. Once approved, the corporate plan will then be translated into a series of key actions by council officers through a delivery plan from April 2025 to achieve the intended outcomes.

This report does not set out any recommendations for content that should be included in the new plan at this stage as it will be shaped through effective collaboration and engagement.

Options Considered

The council must have a Corporate plan to fulfil the obligations of Best Value. Any such plan must be evidence based, current, realistic and enable the whole organisation's performance to be measured and held to account.

The authority's financial strategy and delivery arrangements must also be aligned with priorities in the corporate plan, and respond appropriately to local need, including the plans of partners and stakeholders.

Resource Implications

The draft corporate plan will need to be prepared to support the development of the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which begins in Autumn. The development of the plan is funded from existing corporate consultation budgets.

Legal/Risk Implications Background

None the plan will be developed in full consultation with key stakeholders and taken through scrutiny in August and January as it develops.

Equalities Implications

A Community Impact Assessment has been completed – No issues relevant to decisions in this report however it is noted that the consultation plan must include measures to seek views from underrepresented groups.

Environment and Sustainability Implications (including climate change)

Not relevant to this report

Background Information

The council's new corporate plan will need to be ambitious, and outcome focused in addressing the priorities for the council which are informed by several key elements:

- The aspirations of the new Cabinet, the council and all members
- The views of residents.
- Existing commitments, such as the Local Plan, contracts and existing strategies that extend beyond the current plan period.
- The current and future financial situation of the council – the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).
- Local statistics that highlight areas of concern/ focus
- Input from statutory and key strategic partners.
- The views of local businesses, voluntary sector and staff.

To kick start the process of gathering the above information, resident feedback undertaken at the end of 2023 has been used to assess the priorities of the current corporate plan and the ongoing projects that will continue into the new plan period.

Further facilitated sessions have been held in early July with key partners and stakeholders to give their views on which priorities they feel should be carried forward into a new plan and propose new projects and priorities for the planned consultation.

A number of consultation sessions are planned for late July and August to allow residents and other groups to feed their ideas into the process and prioritise the planned projects and outcomes from the plan.

District statistics published by LGA Inform, Oflog and ONS will also be used to provide a baseline to help shape decisions in relation to the plan.

An outline of the emerging plan was presented to Corporate Scrutiny in June and further update will be taken in August.

Following these sessions, the draft plan will be used to assess budget priorities for sign off at full Council in 2025, when the new plan will be adopted

Report Author

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List of Background Papers

Current [Corporate Plan](#) 2022-2025

Statutory [Best Value duty](#)

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Consultation Plan

Appendix 1

Draft Corporate Plan Timeline

What	When	Notes
ELT review strategic assessment, provisional corporate plan priorities and objectives and scope of task/project groups and outline consultation plan.	Wednesday 19 June	COMPLETE
Facilitated discussion, engagement and collaboration events held with key stakeholders 25 to 27 June	25 to 27 June	COMPLETE
Corporate Scrutiny	Tuesday 25 June	COMPLETE
Corporate Plan Workshop – Corporate Management Team	Thursday 27 June	COMPLETE
Staff Conference and Corporate Plan priorities workshop	8 and 9 July	COMPLETE
Cabinet approve the consultation plan	18 July	
Consult with members, staff, public and key stakeholders on draft Corporate Plan priorities and objectives	Commences 23 July to 18 August	
Corporate Scrutiny	13 August	
Consider responses to Consultation	19 to 30 August	
Policy change/budget process commences	September/ October	
Joint Scrutiny	28 January 2025	
Corporate Scrutiny	6 February 2025	
Council approval of Corporate Plan priorities and ambitions/ objectives together with budget and MTFS	25 February 2025	
Council Approval of Corporate Plan actions and Corporate Performance Scorecard	25 March 2025	