



Strategic Plan

16 July 2015

Report from Martin Tett, Leader

Purpose of this Report

At its meeting in February 2015, the County Council agreed to a mid-term review of the Strategic Plan to assess whether it properly reflected the priorities of the Council and remained achievable, in the context of a challenging public sector environment. The purpose of this report is to present a refreshed version of the Strategic Plan for Council agreement.

Background

The current Strategic Plan was agreed by the County Council in February 2013. It was focused on 8 key themes:

- A Thriving Economy
- Value for Money
- Special Environment
- Getting Involved
- Reaching Potential
- A Safety Net
- Our Transport Links
- Speaking up for Residents

The Strategic Plan is a rolling 4 year plan, which is revisited by County Council on an annual basis to take account of emerging issues. For example, the Plan was amended in 2014 to reflect the work to tackle child sexual exploitation.

Review

At its meeting in February 2015, the County Council agreed to a mid-term review of the Strategic Plan. Two Member workshops were held – 19 March and 24 June – involving 24 Members from across all political groups. I am grateful to Members for their active participation. The review provided an opportunity to reflect on developments in Council

services, the financial challenges, and the new policy programme emerging from the Government post-election.

There was a clear view from Members that we needed to focus in on a reduced set of priorities and a strong consensus around three key themes for delivery:

- Safeguarding our Vulnerable
- Creating Opportunities and Building Self Reliance
- Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

Based on Members' feedback, I attach a refreshed version of the Strategic Plan for Council's consideration.

Once agreed, the priorities will be used to guide the forthcoming budget discussions and Cabinet Members will lead the development of implementation plans and performance metrics. The County Council debate in the afternoon of 16 July 2015 will be the start of that process.

Recommendation

Council is asked to agree the refreshed Strategic Plan for Buckinghamshire County Council as detailed in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1 – Draft Strategic Plan priorities

**MARTIN TETT
LEADER**

