

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Joint Business Plan 2014 - 2019</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Alan Goodrum, Chief Executive</b>

## 1. Purpose of Report

This report seeks Cabinet approval for the draft Joint Business Plan 2014-2019 and one page Aims and Objectives summary document.

## 2. Links to Council Policy Objectives

The Joint Business Plan sets the aims and priorities of the Council for the next five years.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 South Bucks District Council has previously published a Corporate Plan, the aims, priorities and objectives of which were updated annually to reflect the changing needs of the locality and the communities that live and work within South Bucks.
- 3.2 The Corporate Plan was in alignment with the Sustainable Community Strategy, which sets out the vision for the District to 2026 and is based on extensive consultation with residents, local community groups and partner organisations. Those aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy that are the responsibility of the District Council are included in the Corporate Plan.
- 3.3 Local Authorities are moving away from having a Corporate Plan, towards having a business plan. This was as a result of a KPMG report published in 2011, outlining what a future brilliant local authority will look like. The executive summary includes: "Frame a commercial business plan for the council and deploy a new operating model to deliver it;" with the full section recommending a 3 to 5 year business plan focusing on residents and customer base segmentation, performance targets, the relationship between inputs, outputs and measurable outcome targets. It also suggests that the Business Plan either includes or has strong links to the Financial Plan.
- 3.4 The Business Plan underpins service planning, with each Service's Plan for the coming year detailing actions to be undertaken to help to deliver the Business Plan's aims, priorities and objectives. Appropriate actions from the service plans feed back into the Business Plan actions section.
- 3.5 With the annual refresh of the Corporate Plan, the opportunity was taken to bring the process in line with best practice guidance in the form of a Business Plan and to join it up across Chiltern and South Bucks Districts to support the shared services programme.

## 4. Discussion

- 5.
- 4.1 The Business Plan is attached as Appendix B. The vision, values, risks, key facts for each District and performance management framework are refreshed versions of what is in place today. Whilst the actions to deliver the objectives and values have been taken from the already approved 2014-15 Service Plans
- 4.2 New sections have been added to reflect the shared services programme, organisational changes and roles and responsibilities, as well as Appendix C, summarising what each Council tier is responsible for.

- 4.3 The opportunity has been taken to move away from a strict observance of the five Sustainable Community Strategy themes towards three shared headline objectives: Delivering cost-effective, customer- focused services; Working towards safe and healthier local communities; Striving to conserve the environment and promote sustainability. Whilst these overarching objectives are shared, the agreed priorities and actions being taken to deliver them are tailored to reflect what the people of each District tell us is important.
- 4.4 The Joint Business Plan is complemented with a separate one page aims and objectives summary, attached as Appendix A. The intention is to send this one page summary out with Council Tax Notices after refreshing it early next year.

## 5. Resources, Risk and Other Implications

**Resources** - Within existing resources.

**Financial** - The Joint Business Plan complements the budgeting process and has close links to the medium-term financial strategy. It affects the budget planning process by setting the priorities for the future.

**Legal** - No legal implications have been identified

**Risks issues** - The Joint Business Plan includes strategic risks. Business planning helps to alleviate risk through ensuring each service unit is aware of how their work fits into the work of the Council and is closely linked to the needs of the community.

**Equalities** - An Integrated Impact Assessment, including Equalities, was conducted on the joint Business Plan and showed no adverse impacts.

## 6. Recommendation

Cabinet are asked to consider the draft Joint Business Plan 2014-19 and approve delegated authority to the Chief Executive and Leader to carry out any necessary alterations/corrections to the document prior to publication.

<b>Officer Contact:</b>	Alan Goodrum, Chief Executive <a href="mailto:alan.goodrum@southbucks.gov.uk">alan.goodrum@southbucks.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01895 837363
<b>Background Papers</b>	None