

REFRESH OF CORPORATE PLAN 2015-2020

Cabinet Member: Katrina Wood

Ward(s) Affected: ALL

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RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That:

- (i) Members approve the refreshed Corporate Plan as attached to this report at **Appendix A**.
- (ii) Members agree to include the Corporate Plan document within the Budget and Policy Framework and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.

Reason for Decision

To put in place the Council's priorities and work programme for this administration period.

To ensure that the Council's Corporate Plan forms part of the overarching policy framework of the Council set in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

Corporate Implications

1. The Corporate Plan, upon approval, will become the key strategic document for the Council driving action and future resource allocation and is the framework against which the Council's progress and performance, as set out in the Annual Report will be judged by stakeholders.
2. The delivery plans for Prosperity and Progress are based on the objectives within the Council's Economic Development Strategy and Digital First programme.

Executive Summary

1. The Corporate Plan sets out the priorities, ambitions (we want) and high level objectives (we will) to meet both the challenges and opportunities facing the council. The Corporate Plan is the key policy framework document for the Council and any changes made need to be approved by Full Council. This is the first 'refresh' that has been carried out on the Corporate Plan since its publication in January 2016.

2. The refresh has been an iterative process with involvement and input from Members throughout to help define the ambitions (we want) and objectives (we will). The last round of engagement took place on the 10 January 2018 with the review by the Improvement and Review Commission.
3. The output from this process is a refreshed Corporate Plan document presented at **Appendix A**. Although primarily an internal working document, our Corporate Plan is a key reference point for the public and stakeholders. It also provides an important part of the golden thread from a performance management point of view to enable staff to see how their individual actions contribute to the wider Council agenda. A high level outline of the performance management framework that is being put in place to track delivery with monitoring and review arrangements included in the plan.
4. Progress made will be reported each year as part of the Council's Annual Report. Our Corporate Plan will also be used as a framework to inform our communications and social media programme with the public going forward.

Sustainable Community Strategy/Council Priorities - Implications

5. The priorities set out in the refreshed Corporate Plan 2015-2020 form the Council's contribution to achieving the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Wycombe District as well as our wider contribution to partnership plans such as the Community Safety Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Background and Issues

6. Our current Corporate Plan (approved by Council in December 2015 and published in January 2016) has been in place for two years. Within the 'delivering our priorities' section it is recognised that as the environment and circumstances that we work in change - and new opportunities (or challenges) arise, there is a need to periodically 'pause' and review the ambitions and activities. This is to ensure that we remain focussed on what is going to make the biggest difference and can be delivered within the resources that we have.
7. The refresh process started in June 2017 with involvement and input from Members to revisit and refine the focus of our ambitions (we want) in light of the journey we have taken since 2015 – to reflect where we are now and where we are going. The 'we want' ambition statements further translate into a set of 'we will' objectives.
8. This item presents the final outputs of the refresh process: an updated Corporate Plan that includes a summary as a 'plan on a page' (**Appendix A**). It also includes a high level outline of the performance management framework in place to track delivery and enable progress reporting to Cabinet.

Consultation

9. The content of the Corporate Plan 2015-2020 draws on the latest district-wide resident's survey (2014) and data and intelligence drawn together to help inform the development of the joint Modernising Local Government Business Case in January 2017.

10. All Cabinet Members were consulted on these proposals at Leader's Strategic Briefing through June to October 2017. The priorities and outcomes (we will and we want) were discussed with the wider Member group at Member Seminars on the 12 October 2017 and 28 November 2017. The Improvement and Review Commission also considered these are meetings on the 13 September 2017, 8 November 2017 and 10 January 2018. Key feedback that has informed the refresh along with the rationale behind the changes made are set out in **Appendix B**. The revisions to the Corporate Plan have been considered by the Improvement and Review Committee at its meeting on 10th January 2018 and also by Cabinet at its meeting on 5th February 2018 and is policy framework document recommended to Council by Cabinet in accordance with the process outlined in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

Conclusions

11. This report recommends to the refreshed Corporate Plan to Members for approval. This report also sets out how the Corporate Plan will drive the delivery programme, the performance management framework, the service plan development for 2018/19 and the Council's communication plans.

Next Steps

12. To revise the performance management framework, strategic register, service planning and delivery programmes in accordance with the revised priorities and ensure that the plan is communicated effectively across the organisation to members and officers and more widely to stakeholders to drive the Council's activities during this administration and beyond.

Background Papers

Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019:

<https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/About-the-council/Council-policies/Our-corporate-plan.aspx>

Modernising Local Government Business Case:

<https://www.modernisingbucks.org/our-submission/>

Member Presentation: Corporate Plan Refresh

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