

Report for:	Shadow Authority
Meeting Date:	27th February 2020

Title of Report:	Corporate Plan
Shadow Portfolio Holder	Councillor Martin Tett
Responsible Officer	Sophie Payne, Service Director Culture, Sport & Leisure
Report Author Officer Contact:	Marco Dias mdias@buckscc.gov.uk
Recommendations:	That the Shadow Authority approve the Corporate Plan for Buckinghamshire Council.

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 For the Shadow Authority to consider and approve the attached Corporate Plan.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 Not applicable. The draft Budget sets out how the Corporate Plan will be resourced.

3. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly arising from this report. The Corporate Plan is not a legal requirement, but is essential in setting out the Council's overarching strategic framework and priorities.

4. Corporate Plan development

4.1 The Corporate Plan is a council's main strategic business planning document, establishing a golden thread between the Council's priorities, as set out by elected Members, and the activities which will be undertaken to deliver the organisation's agreed outcomes. As a public document, the Corporate Plan also helps communicate to staff, partners and residents, a clear concise narrative of strategic intent.

4.2 Building upon existing best practice in Buckinghamshire, and using the previous five council's corporate plans as a solid foundation, the proposed Corporate Plan was developed alongside budget proposals and through a process of widespread engagement and consultation with members, officers, the public, partners and other stakeholders.

4.3 The Corporate Plan sets out what we want to achieve and how we will do it, addressing the challenges we face and harnessing opportunities as they present themselves, while the budget proposals set out how we will resource this in a robust and prudent manner, making it important to develop both alongside each other.

- 4.4 The Corporate Plan development started in earnest in June 2019 and benefited from wide engagement throughout the process:
- Initial draft developed following informal engagement with members Shadow Executive in June and all members of the Shadow Authority in July, including an online survey during which approximately 30% of Shadow Authority members provided views.
 - Officer discussions across the existing councils and discussions at Programme Boards.
 - Intelligence gathered on what was important to residents (e.g. from conversations at branding focus groups/County Show) - noting that further engagement with external groups was planned as the next step.
- 4.5 Following updates to the Shadow Executive, the draft wording of the Corporate Plan was updated in light of Members' comments and views on the proposed priorities (as well as budget allocations) were sought from residents and organisations between 24th October and 25th November 2019.
- 4.6 1,867 Buckinghamshire residents and 79 organisation representatives responded to the consultation. The proposed priorities were well received with over three-quarters (79%) of respondents agreeing with the new Council's proposed overall priorities, with low levels of disagreement (7% residents and 6% organisations).
- 4.7 Results from the consultation were extensively analysed and the proposed priorities and draft Corporate Plan were re-drafted in light of feedback from the consultation, and ongoing engagement with Members. Work was also undertaken to ensure the draft Corporate Plan was written in 'plain English' and easily accessible to residents.
- 4.8 Following this work, priorities were discussed at Shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the draft Corporate Plan was updated further in light of Members' comments.
- 4.9 Please note that the figures on page 16 may be updated subject to the final Budget being agreed.

5 Next Steps

- 5.1 The attached Corporate Plan incorporates, where possible, all feedback received to date and it is recommended for approval by the Shadow Authority on 27th February.
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