

COUNCIL

21 FEBRUARY 2018

CORPORATE PLAN 2018-21

Report of: Daljit Lally, Chief Executive

Cabinet Member: Nick Oliver, Cabinet Secretary and Corporate Services

Purpose of report

To seek Council approval of the Corporate Plan 2017-21 as the basis for informing the preparation of the forthcoming Medium Term Financial Plan

Recommendations

Council is asked to endorse the final Corporate Plan 2018-21 (as attached) as the basis for informing the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Key Issues

The Corporate Plan is the Council's main strategic planning document, providing a framework for the delivery of all services. It is a clear statement of the Council's vision, strategic aims and policy priorities for the next three years.

It informs both the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the subsequent preparation of Service Statements against which the Council's performance service by service will be measured. In addition, the Council will undertake a Resident Perception Survey in the spring of both 2018 and 2021 to gauge the opinions of residents as to how well they feel the Council is responding to the challenges and opportunities the county and the Council face.

The draft document was considered by the Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) as well as the five Local Area Councils (LACs) - and as such has been amended to reflect the comments received through the discussion at those meetings. The Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

BACKGROUND

1. The Corporate Plan is the Council's main strategic planning document, providing a framework for the delivery of all services. It is a clear statement of the Council's vision, strategic aims and policy priorities for the next three years. As such, it focuses on strategic outcomes.
2. It informs the Medium Term Financial Plan and as such is intended to help in considering competing pressures, understand the links between them and to establish a shared understanding amongst Members and officers of the priorities going forward. Its aim, therefore, is to prioritise those areas of activity on which the Council will focus its attentions over the next three years. This is obviously particularly challenging within the current budgetary constraints.
3. It also informs the subsequent preparation of Service Statements which set out a detailed delivery framework for each Council Service, having taken account of the Medium Term Financial Plan. It is against these that the Council's performance will be measured.
4. In addition, however, the Council will undertake a Resident Perception Survey in the spring of both 2018 and 2021 to gauge the opinions of residents as to how well they feel the Council is responding to the challenges and opportunities the county and the Council face.
5. The draft document was considered by the Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) as well as the five Local Area Councils (LACs).
6. The two substantive comments raised through the discussion at these meetings were as follows:
 - there should be greater reference to meeting the needs of the most disadvantaged particularly within the educating section
 - there should be equitable references to both Tyneside and Edinburgh city regions as travel to work areas prevailing in Northumberland

The content of the final Plan has been amended to reflect these comments.

7. The Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy	The Corporate Plan steers the strategic direction of the Council for the term of the current Administration
Finance and value for money	The Corporate Plan significantly informs the preparation of the Medium Term Financial Plan
Legal	n/a
Procurement	n/a
Human Resources	n/a
Property	n/a
Equalities	(Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No X N/A <input type="checkbox"/> The Corporate Plan outlines the Council's approach to supporting individuals who are discriminated against, are more vulnerable, or feel disadvantaged. Equality Impact Assessments will be prepared as required as part of the Council's budget setting process
Risk Assessment	n/a
Crime & Disorder	The Corporate Plan confirms that a fundamental objective of the Council is to ensure that all individuals and communities feel safe.
Customer Consideration	The draft content of the Corporate Plan was outlined and discussed at each of the five Local Area Councils in tandem with the emerging budget strategy.
Carbon reduction	The Corporate Plan confirms that the promotion of carbon reduction remains an objective of the Council
Wards	ALL

Background papers:

None

Report sign off

Authors must ensure that officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

	initials
Finance Officer	AE
Monitoring Officer/Legal	LH
Human Resources	KA
Procurement	TP
I.T.	NA
Executive Director	DL
Portfolio Holder(s)	NO

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