

CABINET – 19 JUNE 2018

CORPORATE PLAN 2018-2021

Report by the Chief Executive

Introduction

1. The Corporate Plan sets out the County Council's overarching strategy for the period 2018-2021. It states our updated vision for 'thriving communities' in Oxfordshire and describes the council's main priorities and the specific actions that will be taken in the period to March 2019.
2. A draft of the Corporate Plan was considered by County Council on 13th February 2018, and a motion agreed that the plan should be reconsidered prior to a further meeting of Council. Following this a cross-party Working Group met to debate, steer, shape and finalise the Corporate Plan 2018-2021.
3. This paper provides the background to the attached draft Corporate Plan 2018- 2021 in ANNEX A and recommends that Cabinet recommend the document for agreement by Council in July.

Background

4. In October 2017 the Council published a short, public-facing document (the 'prospectus') which summarises the council's vision and priorities; this document has been widely distributed and has been positively received.
5. The Corporate Plan 2018- 2021 expands on the messages in the prospectus, drawing together our vision, values, challenges we face and the key areas of focus for the coming year.
6. The intended audience for the Plan is Councillors, staff, partners, inspectors and residents with a specific interest. It is also intended to be a predominantly web-based document, linking to more detail about specific elements in the Plan.

Response to Council comments on the plan

7. Councillors expressed views that the corporate plan should be shorter and more focused, with greater emphasis on future plans and how these will be achieved. Councillors also wished to see the full detail of how progress will be measured through priority outcomes, indicators and measures. This information can be seen in ANNEX B of this report.

8. The priority outcomes and indicators for this Plan were discussed and agreed both by the Corporate Plan Working Group and by Performance Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 24th May 2018.

Finalising the Corporate Plan

9. The Corporate Plan is a key document for the council, building on and aligning closely to the messages in the prospectus document. Together they set the future strategic direction and how this will be achieved.
10. Council recommended in February that the Plan was brought back to Council in March. However, to ensure Councillors could be fully involved in shaping and finalising the Plan, Cabinet agreed on the 27th of February that more time was taken to complete the work.
11. To finalise the Plan, a Councillor Working Group was established with cross-party representation. This Group had eight members in total (four Conservative, two Labour, two Liberal Democrat) and it met four times, with cross-party representatives at each meeting. Draft content, material and questions were circulated to all members of the Group in advance of each meeting to provide opportunities to feed in views at each stage.
12. The Group made agreements at each meeting which were recorded and used to shape further iterations of the Plan which is now attached at ANNEX A.
13. The document in ANNEX A has been presented in a way that is indicative of the format and flow that the final document will have. Following Cabinet agreement, the document will be designed ahead of Council in July, in line with the existing 'Thriving Communities' branding. Such branding has been used in the publication of the prospectus, Council Tax leaflet and promotional posters.
14. The document in ANNEX B contains the draft performance outcomes, indicators and measures which will be used to monitor and manage performance against the Corporate Plan. The outcomes and key indicators are incorporated throughout the Corporate Plan to show how we will know we are making a difference. The more detailed measures which sit below are for Cabinet's information; they are not intended to be published with the final Corporate Plan.

Financial and Staff Implications

15. There are no direct financial or staffing impacts that have been identified as part of this Plan, the actions to deliver the Plan have been identified to be in line with the staffing and budget available. This is specifically being identified through the service and resource planning process.

Equalities Implications

16. The Plan seeks to ensure all residents are given equal opportunity and looks to address inequalities where they exist. Where any of the actions involve changes to service or service delivery, they are considered as part of the specific proposals (e.g. through Service and Community Impact Assessments).

RECOMMENDATIONS

17. Cabinet is **RECOMMENDED** to:
- (a) note the Draft Corporate Plan 2018- 2021;
 - (b) **RECOMMEND** that the Draft Corporate Plan be agreed by Council;
 - (c) Delegate authority for final additions and changes to be agreed by the Leader and the Chief Executive on behalf of Cabinet.

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Chief Executive

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