

REPORT TITLE: DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2020 - 2025

23 OCTOBER 2019

REPORT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL. CLLR LUCILLE THOMPSON

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WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

The current Council Plan 2017-20 was adopted by Council on 16 January 2019 and runs until 31 March 2020.

There have been some significant changes at the Council since this time including a change in administration following the local elections in May and the declaration of a Climate Emergency in June.

The Council Plan 2020-25 sets out the Council's key ambitions for the coming five years and focusses on five priority outcomes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Cabinet approves the draft Council Plan 2020-25 for consultation with stakeholders, residents and businesses until the 29 November 2019.

IMPLICATIONS:**1 COUNCIL STRATEGY OUTCOME**

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed new Council Plan which details the activities that the Council will undertake over the next five years to deliver the five priority outcomes included in the new Council Plan

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 None directly in this report. The activities in the Plan, along with the Medium Term Financial Strategy will guide how the Council's financial resources will be allocated and utilised in the future. Proposals for budget growth will be brought forward for approval as required.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 No legal implications arise directly from the attached Plan, though individual projects and actions will be subject to review as required by Legal Services. The Localism Act 2011 also introduced legally binding duties and other legal implications which will arise from decisions through implementation.

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None directly arising from the report. To deliver the aims and objectives in the Council Plan, resources will need to be assigned as required across the council.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None in the Plan, though asset management and investment is an important element of the Council's activities

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 Executive Leadership Board and senior managers have been consulted on the content of the draft Council Plan. All Cabinet members have contributed to the draft Council Plan.
- 6.2 Once approved, the draft Council Plan will be published for consultation with residents, stakeholders and elected members until 29 November and will follow the timetable below:

Date	Milestone
October – 29 November 2019	Five week consultation period for Draft Plan with stakeholders, residents, and businesses via a number of methods including the council's on-line consultation tool, Parish Connect, City Voice and

	<p>Entrepreneur newsletter. This will also be publicised on social media.</p> <p>The consultation will be advertised in reception and visitors encouraged to access the on-line consultation via the public computer terminals.</p>
27 November 2019	Scrutiny Committee - consideration of the draft Plan by Scrutiny Committee as part of wider consultation
11 December 2019	Cabinet - approval of the Plan and recommendation to Council for adoption
15 January 2020	Full Council - adoption of final version of the Plan

6.3 A presentation giving an overview of the new Council Plan including the priority outcomes was given to members at the Business and Housing Policy Committee on 7 October 2019.

6.4 At that meeting the following issues were raised and discussed:

- Reference to the data source that supports the outcomes and priorities to be considered for inclusion in the Plan
- Review the outcomes and priorities to ensure that they respond positively to the challenges that the Council is facing
- The Council Plan needs to set out our vision for how Winchester will look in the future
- A request for the priorities in the draft Plan to be costed and assurance that they are affordable
- The Station Approach and Cattle Market projects to be included in the table of Council key projects
- The future of River Park Leisure Centre (RPLC) is not just for Winchester but for the whole of the district
- Concern that that five week consultation period is too short
- Reference to council resources, including staff to be included in the Plan

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no direct environmental considerations included in this report, however tackling the Climate Emergency and reducing the carbon emissions across the district contribute to all the aims of the draft Council Plan.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSEMENT

8.1 None, although individual projects included in the draft Plan may be subject to an equality impact assessment if required.

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 None.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<i>Property - none</i>		
<i>Community Support</i>	Provide engagement opportunities especially through key projects	Further opportunity to engage with our residents and community
<i>Timescales</i>	Quarterly monitoring of the measures included in the Plan by Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet	
<i>Project capacity</i>	Project Team structure across the Council supports the delivery of the programmes and projects included in the Plan	Ensuring that adequate resources are allocated to all new projects as part of the business justification case and before they commence.
<i>Financial / VfM</i>	The Council's Risk Appetite as set out in the Risk Management Policy 2018 defines the amount of financial risk the Council is willing to consider. All major projects have their own risk register which identifies among others financial risks and includes relevant actions to mitigate these risks.	New revenue streams are proposed, as well as enhancing existing schemes to positively contribute to the Council's financial position.
<i>Legal</i>	Each significant action or project will be subject to its own legal consideration in appropriate reports	
<i>Innovation</i>	By exploring new ways of working, this increases the Council's exposure to risk	This Plan proposes some innovative proposals that will provide the Council

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
	and alters its risk profile. This is mitigated by consideration of a robust business justification case before approval is given.	with the opportunity to introduce new ideas and ways of working. The risk of remaining the same is significant in that funding reductions are such that the Council would be unable to fund some of its core services
<i>Reputation</i>	The risk of delivering the Plan is mitigated through the monitoring of the outcome measures contained within the Strategy, and ensuring corrective action is taken. Not delivering on some of these items, especially some of the major projects will have a large financial risk to the Council through impacting on future revenue streams	This Plan gives the opportunity for the Council to enhance its reputation through establishing a more targeted ambition for the district that is based on clear measures. Success against these key measures will enhance the Council's reputation to move key programmes of work forward
<i>Other – none</i>		

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

- 11.1 The Council Strategy 2017 – 20 was refreshed a year ago and formally adopted by Council on 16 January 2019. The Strategy will cease on 31 March 2020 and therefore needs to be updated.
- 11.2 Much has changed since January when the Council Strategy was adopted and the new Council Plan provides the opportunity for the Administration to reshape activities and resources and align them to their outcomes. This document drives the allocation of the Council's resources over the period until 2025.
- 11.3 The Plan (attached as Appendix 1) is a draft for consultation with a proposed final copy being presented to Cabinet on 11 December and adoption at Council on 15 January 2020.
- 11.4 The plan is a high level document which will be backed up by an evidence base, a performance plan showing our outcome measures and service plans.
- 11.5 The draft Council Plan sets out the main challenges the Council faces and the priority outcomes for the five year period together with the main delivery mechanisms for achieving them.

11.6 The climate emergency is an overarching priority and the targets to create a carbon neutral Council by 2024 and carbon neutral District by 2030 will be central to everything we do.

11.7 The outcomes and what we want to achieve under each priority are:

1. Tackling the climate emergency and creating a greener district

What we want to achieve:

- A carbon neutral Winchester City Council by 2024
- A carbon neutral Winchester District by 2030
- Reduced levels of waste and increased recycling, exceeding national targets
- An increase in the proportion of journeys taken by walking, cycling and public transport

2. Homes for all

What we want to achieve:

- More young people and families working and living in the district.
- All homes are energy efficient and affordable to run
- The creation of communities not just homes
- No-one sleeping rough except by choice

3. Vibrant local economy

What we want to achieve:

- Increased opportunities for high-quality, well-paid employment across the district
- New offices and workspace located in areas with sustainable transport links or where they reduce the need to travel to work
- More younger people choosing to live and work here
- Businesses grasping opportunities for green growth
- A compelling and competitive offer attracting visitors to our City, market towns and rural communities across the district

4. Living well

What we want to achieve:

- A reduction in health inequalities

- Greater participation in physical and cultural activities
- An increase in active travel
- Services that work for all, but especially for residents who need more help to live well.
- Attractive and well used green spaces with space for relaxation and play

5. Your services, Your Voice

What we want to achieve:

- An open and transparent Council
- Improving satisfaction for our services
- Good value compared to other similar authorities
- Continuous improvement in cost-effectiveness
- High accessibility and usage
- A balanced budget and stable Council finances

11.8 Quarterly progress reports will be presented to Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12.1 The Council could choose not to have a Council Plan or not refresh the current Council Strategy. It is the Council Plan that sets out the key delivery programme for the Council and enables effective business planning and programme management for teams. Not to have a Plan is not recommended

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

CAB3094 Council Strategy update

Other Background Documents:-

None.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 Draft Council Plan 2020 -2025

