

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>17 November 2015</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>Corporate plan 2016-20</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Assistant director, commissioning</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Key decision**

This is not an executive decision.

## **Wards affected**

County-wide

## **Purpose**

To seek the views of the general overview and scrutiny committee on the council's corporate plan 2016-20 in order to inform cabinet's recommendation to council.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**THAT:**

- (a) The committee provides comments on the draft corporate plan 2016-20.**

## **Alternative options**

1. Under its constitution the council is required to have an up to date corporate plan. The committee may choose to recommend alternative priorities or proposals, but in doing so any alternatives should be informed by the evidence base available and the prevailing financial and policy context.

## **Reasons for recommendations**

2. The corporate plan forms part of the council's budget and policy framework. The council's budget and policy framework rules require that cabinet have regard to the views of overview and scrutiny in developing their recommendations to Council on budget and policy framework items.

## Key Considerations

3. The corporate plan does not seek to set out everything that the council is seeking to achieve; however, alongside the medium term financial strategy, it does provide the overarching policy framework within which decisions will be taken and resources allocated.
4. Once the content of the plan has been approved, further work will be undertaken to ensure the plan is presented in a more user-friendly way, and reflecting the council's identity and branding. The plan will inform the development of delivery plans demonstrating how the aims of the corporate plan are to be achieved.

## Community Impact

5. The draft plan provides the council's vision for the people of Herefordshire, drawing on the evidence base of [Understanding Herefordshire](#).
6. Amongst the key considerations identified in Understanding Herefordshire were:
  - the need to provide opportunities and support to children from disadvantaged and socially isolated communities;
  - reducing health inequalities for people living in poorer areas of the county;
  - the need for the population to partake in healthier lifestyles, with the NHS Health Checks scheme making a valuable contribution;
  - a need to support and develop educational institutions to deliver lifelong learning, which may help retain and attract young people within and to the county and help to deliver and maintain the higher skill levels needed;
  - the provision of subsidised housing.

## Equality and human rights

7. Increasing equality of opportunity and access, and reducing inequalities underpin the corporate plan. Individual elements of activity within the delivery plan will undergo equality impact assessments as an integral part of their planning and implementation.

## Financial implications

8. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## Legal implications

9. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## Risk management

10. There are risks associated with the production of any strategic plan at a time of significant change. However, without a clear indication of the strategic priorities, there is a greater risk that resources may not be directed to areas of greatest needs. Risk assessment of activities planned to implement the corporate plan will be assessed as an integral element of the delivery planning process.
11. Many of the risks in the corporate risk register will be further mitigated as the corporate plan evolves and the delivery plans are developed to address the key

issues, which will demonstrate how the aims of the corporate plan will be achieved.

## **Consultees**

12. The views of residents and the community have been captured as part of the recent [priorities and budget consultation](#) which ran throughout the summer. Whilst the consultation confirmed the proposed corporate plan priorities, almost three quarters of respondents thought that the council should identify other priority areas. These additional areas largely complement the proposed priorities, and will be used to inform the development of delivery plans.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A - Draft corporate plan 2016-20

## **Background Papers**

None