

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>5 February 2016</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>Corporate plan 2016-2020</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Deputy leader of the council</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Key decision**

This is not an executive decision.

## **Wards affected**

County-wide

## **Purpose**

To approve the council's corporate plan 2016-20, following recommendation by Cabinet.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**THAT:**

- (a) **the draft corporate plan 2016-2020, as set out at appendix A to this report, be approved.**

## **Alternative options**

1. To amend the proposals. It is open to Council to recommend alternatives to the plan proposed. However, 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 & policy framework; approval is reserved to Council.

## **Key considerations**

3. The corporate plan does not seek to set out everything that the council will do; however, alongside the medium term financial strategy, it does provide the overarching policy framework within which decisions will be taken and resources

allocated.

4. The new corporate plan builds on the existing plans and priorities. The proposals within the plan are informed by our current performance, our evidence base, [Understanding Herefordshire](#), and the views of residents and the community which were captured as part of the priorities and budget consultation which ran throughout the summer.
5. Notable achievements over the period of the council's existing corporate plan 2013-2016 are contained within the proposed corporate plan at appendix A.
6. Cabinet considered the draft plan on 21 January and recommended the plan for adoption.

## Community impact

7. The corporate plan provides the council's vision for the people of Herefordshire, drawing on the evidence base of [Understanding Herefordshire](#).
8. 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; and
  - the provision of subsidised housing.

## Equality duty

9. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying "due regard" in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.
10. 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

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The corporate plan, once approved, provides the overarching strategic framework within which decisions regarding the allocation of resources will be taken.

## Legal implications

12. The corporate plan forms part of the council's policy framework. Authority to adopt this plan recommended by cabinet therefore lies with full council. In reaching a decision the council may adopt the plan, make amendments or refer the plan back to cabinet for further consideration. In considering the adoption of this plan the council

must consider the outcome of the consultation.

## **Risk management**

13. 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.
14. 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**

15. The views of residents and the community have been captured as part of the recent [priorities and budget consultation](#) which ran throughout the summer.
16. A draft of the corporate plan was considered by the general overview & scrutiny committee and the health & social care overview and scrutiny committee on 17 November 2015. The plan was noted without comment by both committees.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A Draft corporate plan 2016-2020

## **Background papers**

None.