

MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	5 FEBRUARY 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL AND NHS HEREFORDSHIRE JOINT CORPORATE PLAN
REPORT BY:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To invite Council to approve the Council and NHS Herefordshire Joint Corporate Plan vision, objectives and long-term outcomes.

Recommendation

THAT: Council approve the Herefordshire Council and NHS Herefordshire Joint Corporate Plan vision, objectives and long-term outcomes at Appendix 1 to the report.

Key Points Summary

- The Council's current corporate plan is out-of-date and a new one is required for 2010-13.
- A joint corporate plan between the Council and NHS Herefordshire is needed to specify what their close partnership is intended to achieve over this period.
- The Plan has been prepared to be affordable within the medium term financial strategies of the two organisations.

Alternative Options

- 1 The Council's constitution requires there to be an up-to-date Corporate Plan. This could, as in the past, be for the Council alone. However, the uniquely close partnership established with NHS Herefordshire requires a sound basis for the specification and performance management of their joint vision, objectives and desired long-term outcomes. The Joint Corporate Plan will provide this, and forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 As for Alternative Options.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Steve Martin, Corporate Policy and Research Manager, on (01432) 261877

Introduction and Background

- 3 The Council's existing corporate plan is due for its periodic refresh. To provide a sound basis for the close partnership with NHS Herefordshire a joint plan is needed.
- 4 The draft Joint Corporate Plan 2010-13, comprising the vision, objectives and long-term outcomes, is at Appendix 1.
- 5 Under the Constitution, it is for the Executive to ensure that the Plan is implemented. Appendix 2 provides, for information, the present draft of the performance indicators and associated targets, key projects and milestones that would be used to achieve this and provide the basis for strategic performance management.
- 6 The PCT Board is being invited to approve the Plan at its meeting on 28th January 2010.

Key Considerations

- 7 The draft has been considered and commended in the context of the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy by the Herefordshire Public Services Steering Group as well as the Joint Management Team. It was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 18th January, which welcomed the format of the draft Joint Corporate Plan and (referring to Appendix 2) made a number of recommendations to the Executive in relation to its implementation.
- 8 Cabinet agreed to consider Overview and Scrutiny Committee's suggestions in finalising Appendix 2, and further agreed to commend The Joint Corporate Plan (Appendix 1) for Council's approval.

Community Impact

- 9 The Joint Corporate Plan sets out what Herefordshire Council and NHS Herefordshire intend to achieve over the coming three years to improve services and the quality of life for the people of Herefordshire.

Financial Implications

- 10 None. The plan is designed to be deliverable within the medium term financial strategies.

Legal Implications

- 11 None.

Risk Management

- 12 The major risk is that future levels of Government funding and controls of local authority and NHS expenditure could make the Plan unaffordable. The Joint Corporate Plan has been prepared so as to be affordable within the cautious assumptions about future funding in the medium term financial strategies of the Council and NHS Herefordshire. The Chief Executive will keep under review the potential organisational impact of changes in the financial and operational context, including as regards national and local requirements for efficiency savings. If the assumptions made in the medium term financial strategies were to prove unfounded, the Joint Corporate Plan may need to be reviewed.

Consultees

- 13 The Herefordshire Public Services Steering Group, the Joint Management Team and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Appendices

- 14 Appendix 1: Proposed Joint Corporate Plan vision, objectives and long-term outcomes
Appendix 2: Present draft of the performance indicators and associated targets, key projects and milestones

Background Papers

None.