

MEETING:	Cabinet
MEETING DATE:	21 January 2016
TITLE OF REPORT:	Corporate plan 2016-2020
REPORT BY:	Assistant director commissioning

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not a key decision.

Wards affected

County-wide

Purpose

To agree proposals for the council's corporate plan 2016-20 for recommendation to Council.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) authority be delegated to the director of economy, communities and corporate, in consultation with the leader of the council, to make any amendments necessary arising from the discussion at cabinet, prior to consideration by Council; and**
- (b) subject to the above, the draft corporate plan 2016-2020, as set out at appendix A to this report, be recommended to Council.**

Alternative options

1. To amend the proposals. It is open to cabinet to recommend alternatives to the vision, priorities and outcomes to those proposed. However, any alternatives should be informed by the evidence base available and the prevailing financial and policy context.

Reasons for recommendations

2. The council's constitution requires cabinet to make recommendations to council in

respect of the budget & policy framework; the corporate plan forms part of this framework.

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.

Community impact

6. The corporate plan provides the council's vision for the people of Herefordshire, drawing on the evidence base of [Understanding Herefordshire](#).
7. 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

8. 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.
9. 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

10. 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

11. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Risk management

12. 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.
13. 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

14. The views of residents and the community have been captured as part of the recent priorities and budget consultation which ran throughout the summer.
15. 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.

Appendices

Appendix A Draft corporate plan 2016-2020

Background papers

None.