

## **Cabinet – 08 Feb 2017**

### **Corporate Plan**

**Portfolio:** Sean Coughlan (Leader of the Council)

**Related portfolios:** All

**Service:** Business Change

**Wards:** All

**Key decision:** No

**Forward plan:** No

#### **1. Summary**

This report sets out for approval the draft updated council's Corporate Plan which is attached as Appendix 1. The 2016-2020 Corporate Plan was approved by Cabinet on 15 June 2016 and this updated version - (2017-2020) - reflects both the progress made so far towards achieving the purpose and priorities of the plan, and the context and impact of the four year budget setting process beginning with 2017-18.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That any proposed minor changes which emerge following Cabinet should be agreed and finalised with the Leader prior to Council on 23 February.
- 2.2 That Council is recommended to approve the updated and refreshed Corporate Plan 2017-2020 – 'Reducing Inequalities, Maximising Potential'.

#### **3. Report detail**

The Local Government Act 2000 gave the Council collective responsibility for approving its policy framework and budget. The Corporate Plan forms part of that policy framework and also informs the budget setting process. It provides a clear focus to plan activities and target improvements.

## **4. Corporate Plan and Priorities**

### **4.1 Current version of the Plan – in place since June 2016**

The existing Corporate Plan 2016-2020 was approved by Cabinet in June 2016 with the overriding purpose “**Reducing Inequalities and Maximising Potential**”. The plan aligns strongly with the Marmot Principles published in 2010 based around social determinants of health.

The council’s purpose is currently supported by the following priorities:

- Lifelong health, wealth and happiness
- Safe, resilient and prospering communities
- Sustainable change and improvement for all

It is recognised that the delivery of the Corporate Plan is underpinned by all staff and so the priorities are dependent on:

- The Council being efficient and effective
- Staff are empowered and quick to adapt
- Our communities are engaged and sustainable

### **4.2 Corporate Plan Updated**

The refresh of the corporate plan (Appendix 1) has been developed for approval alongside the budget setting process for 2017-18.

Some of the factors that give context to and have influenced the work towards a refreshed plan are:

- Progress made against the purpose and priorities of the plan
- Updated intelligence, data and needs analysis
- Alignment of the plan with the 4 year budget setting process
- Ensuring that our key areas of focus as an organisation reflect the challenges of the current financial situation and what we are really able to deliver and achieve
- An opportunity to review our priorities to give clarity and to reflect the priorities of our key partners and their strategic plans
- Walsall’s role in the region including the developing West Midlands Combined Authority
- Awareness of the emerging transformation plan for how the council will change the way it delivers its services in the future as part of an integrated approach to planning

### 4.3 Refreshed Vision and Priorities

The Council's purpose remains "**Reduce Inequalities and Maximise Potential**".

Against the background of the points outlined at 4.2, our refreshed overarching priorities are aligned with 3 main themes and linked statements of vision/ ambition:

**1. Economy**

- **Pursue inclusive economic growth:** *Walsall people will have appropriate skills and access to jobs so economic benefits are felt in each of our communities*

**2. People**

- **To make a positive difference to the lives of Walsall people:** *Increasing independence and improving healthy lifestyles so all can positively contribute to their communities.*
- **Children are safe from harm, happy and learning well with self-belief, aspiration and support to be their best** - *Walsall children are provided with the best start in life so they can fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to their communities.*

**3. Place**

- **Safe, resilient and prospering communities:** *Walsall is a clean, safe and healthy place, with the right housing to meet need, accessible to all and with a strong sense of belonging and cohesion.*

### 4.4 Monitoring and Delivery of the Plan

A delivery plan will be developed to enable regular oversight and monitoring of progress against the refreshed priorities.

In addition to a suite of statutory and local performance measures which align with the refreshed priorities, other council and partnership strategic plans will inform the delivery of the Corporate Plan, including the Walsall Plan, Transformation Plan, Medium Term Financial Plan, Organisational Development Plan/Workforce Strategy and the ICT Strategy. A high degree of consistency is therefore required across the suite of strategic plans in order to support a 'golden thread' approach and to enable an integrated planning framework.

## 5. Risk management

There are no significant risks associated with publishing the Corporate Plan, other than the risk to the Council's reputation if it fails to deliver. Effective risk management practice is incorporated into the planning of projects and initiatives that will support the delivery of the plan and this helps mitigate any risk of failing to deliver.

Headline measures for monitoring delivery of the plan are to be further developed, but take as their starting point those measures within the Corporate Performance

Framework that have been included in regular monitoring reports to CMT. Other measures may be included in the emerging monitoring and delivery plan.

## **6. Financial implications**

There are no financial implications specific to the revised plan however the plan has been aligned with the budget which Cabinet will finalise on 8 February and recommend to Council.

## **7. Legal implications**

There is no legal requirement to publish a Corporate Plan though its adoption and implementation, and in particular the values it expresses will help deliver a more robust governance framework.

## **8. Property implications**

There are no direct property implications associated with the approval of the corporate plan, though its objectives and priorities will help inform future property decisions.

## **9. Health and wellbeing implications**

Health and well-being is a clearly expressed priority within the plan. Delivery of the plan will help improve health and wellbeing outcomes for all Walsall people in line with the Marmot principles. The priorities detailed in the updated corporate plan align with those in the emerging Health and Well Being Strategy scheduled for approval by the Health and Well Being Board in April 2017.

## **10. Staffing implications**

The Corporate Plan helps to provide staff with a clear vision of what the council is trying to achieve which can be translated into understandable priorities and actions for employees, connecting their individual roles and services to the council's priorities. The continuing development of integrated planning will provide staff with greater clarity of how their role connects to the priorities and activities detailed in the updated corporate plan.

## **11. Equality implications**

The Corporate Plan fully recognises the diverse needs within the borough and acknowledges the different approaches needed to meet these needs.

## **12. Consultation**

Consultation has been conducted with services within the council and with officers involved in partnership working and the Health and Well Being Board.

## Author

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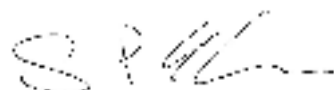
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08 February 2017



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