

Cabinet – 15 June 2016

Corporate Plan

Portfolio: Councillor 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 version of a revised Corporate Plan 2016-2020 which is attached as appendix 1. The draft Corporate Plan and purpose - 'Reducing Inequalities; Maximising Potential' - reflects the emerging areas of focus and priorities of the new administration following Council on 25 May 2016.

Also attached for context and information is the current 2016-2020 Corporate Plan (Appendix 2), which was agreed alongside the budget at Full Council on 25 February 2016.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That any proposed minor changes which emerge following Cabinet should be agreed and finalised with the Leader prior to Council in July.
- 2.2 That Council be recommended to approve the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 – '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. Council priorities

The existing Council Plan 2016-20 has as its Purpose:

To Improve lives and life chances for everyone who lives and works in the Borough of Walsall and in so doing minimise the help that residents need from the state.

4.1 The five priorities that support this purpose are:

- Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work
- Improving Health and well being, including independence for older people and the protection of vulnerable people
- Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities
- Improving Safeguarding, Learning and the Life Chances for Children and Young People, raising aspirations
- Create a modern, dynamic and efficient workforce designed around what Residents need.

4.2 The proposed new Corporate Plan –‘Reducing Inequalities. Maximising Potential’ aligns strongly with the Marmot Principles which emerged from ‘Fair Society, Healthy Lives: A Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England Post-2010’ (“The Marmot Review”), which was published in 2010 and set out the following key policy objectives, based around the social determinants of health:

- Give every child the best start in life
- Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention

In this context the purpose in the new Corporate Plan is:

Reduce inequalities and maximise potential. By working to reduce health, social and economic inequalities, the potential of the area, local businesses, communities and people will be maximised, making Walsall Wonderful.

This is 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

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 Performance Framework that was approved by Audit Committee on 9 November 2015 and was presented to Cabinet on 3 February 2016.

6. Financial implications

There are no financial implications specific to the new plan which has been drafted to align with the budget window as set at Full Council in February 2016.

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.

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.

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 details are set out in the relevant consultation sheet.

Author

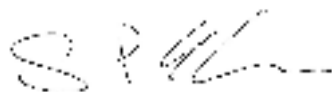
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15 June 2016



Councillor Coughlan
Leader of the Council

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