

Subject:	Brighton & Hove City Council Corporate Plan 2011-15		
Date of Meeting:	20 October 2011		
Report of:	Strategic Director, Resources		
Lead Member:	Leader of the Council		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Matthew Wragg	Tel: 29-3944
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Key Decision:	Yes	Forward Plan No: CAB23556	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

1.1 The Corporate Plan describes in summary the priorities of Brighton & Hove City Council as an organisation, providing clear context and direction for, principally, those who receive services from the council and those who work for and with the authority.

1.1.1 This plan follows the commonly used format for local authority corporate plans which is:

- *Council Priorities* – which articulate the outcomes the council is seeking to achieve during the lifetime of the plan.
- *Operational Approach* – how the council will ensure it is fit for purpose and manage its resources, both financial and people, to deliver its priorities.

1.2 Given the established and effective partnerships in Brighton & Hove the Corporate Plan references and complements other key strategic partnership plans for the city, in particular the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) which sets out the agreed city vision.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That Council, as recommend by Cabinet on September 22, approve the Corporate Plan for 2011 - 2015, as set out in appendix 1.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 In recent years there have been certain statutory requirements which local authority corporate plans have been obliged to fulfil, based primarily on reporting and inspection of statutory performance monitoring. National Government has removed these requirements, giving greater flexibility over content. Most local authorities now produce a Corporate Plan aligned to the Comprehensive Spending Review period.

- 3.2 The Plan is divided into two sections. Part One sets out the council's priorities and Part Two its operational approach, both for the next four years.
- 3.3 Under each council priority are the following:
- I. **Outcomes:** within each priority there are a set of outcomes the council is seeking to achieve over the lifetime of the plan.
 - II. **Commitments:** these are key actions being undertaken to achieve the outcomes and will be updated annually.
 - III. **Measures of success:** these are indicators that will demonstrate if progress is being made towards the outcomes.
- 3.4 Some of the indicators are under review either nationally or locally, in terms of accuracy and availability of resources to collect data. Therefore the indicators will be reviewed as part of refreshing the Plan each year to ensure relevance and robustness.
- 3.5 In addition, under each priority the links to the relevant Sustainable Community Strategy priority and city partnerships are made.
- 3.6 The council's Constitution requires that Full Council agree the Corporate Plan.
- 3.7 The council's Governance Committee will receive an annual progress report and Full Council will receive a report, for approval, on the new commitments for each year. This will follow Budget Council.
- 3.8 It is proposed that the Corporate Plan be hosted as a live, interactive document on the council's website. This will allow the reader to access different levels of detail about the Plan according to their wish, as well be more environmental friendly. The electronic format will allow easy signposting to other information via web links. The Plan will also be available as a full text document and also a designed summary.
- 3.9 To communicate progress against the Plan and update the commitments the Corporate Plan will be refreshed, reported and republished online each financial year. This will also allow the plan to be live to internal, as well as external, developments such as the People Strategy.
- 3.10 Information about the plan will also be included in *The Boardtalk* (the Strategic Leadership Board's communication on *The Wave*), staff roadshows and the staff magazine '*Channel*'.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The following people were provided with the opportunity to comment and input into the Corporate Plan:
- Members of the staff forums
 - Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission
 - Political groups
 - Individual Cabinet Members
 - Corporate Management Team

- Strategic Leadership Board

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The funding requirements and related assumptions to deliver the Corporate Plan are set out within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) sets out the resource projections for the forthcoming three years, the financial challenges and opportunities that the council faces and the approach planned to meet the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 13/09/2011

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 As indicated in paragraph 3.6 above, it is the responsibility of Full Council to approve and adopt the council's Corporate Plan. However, it is appropriate and indeed normal practice, for Cabinet to formulate the final proposals in the Plan for submission to Full Council; this is reflected in the recommendation to this report.

Once Full Council approves and adopts the Plan, responsibility for implementation rests with Cabinet.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 13/09/11

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The council's Equality and Inclusion Policy is a key accompanying document to the Corporate Plan. The Equality and Inclusion Policy guides the council's approach to equality, diversity and inclusion. It explains the council's responsibilities and duties, and sets out how the council will meet them. This includes identifying the priorities of equality groups across the city and address equality implications of the Corporate Plan.

In addition, data from the Place Survey and the State of the City report has been used to inform the development of the Corporate Plan and the rolling programme of equality impact assessments by teams and service units across the council.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Sustainability implications for both council operations and city outcomes have been incorporated directly into the plan in particular the priority to 'build a more sustainable city' and to create a 'council the city deserves'. These have been informed by the State of the City report and recent work by the City Sustainability Partnership on ecological foot printing, as well as on going work by council teams for example, transport, parks, waste.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Crime and Disorder implications have been incorporated directly into the plan in particular the priority to 'tackle inequality' and 'involving people'. The emerging Safe in the City Strategy has also informed the development of the Corporate Plan.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Risks and opportunities for the council and the city have been considered during the development of the plan significantly influencing the choice of priorities, for example, social and economic implications of not tackling inequality, the benefits and opportunities of better involvement of wider range of people.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The Corporate Plan sets out the overarching priorities for the council and provides the framework for developing service level outcomes and business plans, leading to individual work plans and performance reviews. It also communicates the council's priorities to external partners and highlights how council activity supports the aims of the city's Sustainable Community Strategy.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The Corporate Plan is the only document that provides a comprehensive overview of the council's priorities for the Comprehensive Spending Review period, and how it will manage all its resources - finance, people, assets - to deliver the priorities and the indicators it will use to measure progress.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Corporate Plan is, as determined in the council's constitution, a key document forming the council's policy framework. Therefore it is required to be recommended by Cabinet and approved by Full Council.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Corporate Plan 2011 - 2015
2. Medium Term Financial Strategy

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None