

APPENDIX 1

Huntingdonshire District Council: Corporate Strategic Planning Framework

Introduction

The strategic planning framework brings together our long-term vision, annual priorities, financial planning, and transformation activity into a single, coherent structure. This ensures that council activity is aligned, resourced, and delivered to achieve the best outcomes for residents, communities, and the district.

The Framework

There are four key documents, all interdependent: The Place Strategy, Corporate Plan, Medium Term Financial Plan, and Transformation Plan working together to drive improvement, manage risk, and deliver better outcomes.

a. Huntingdonshire Futures Place Strategy

- **Purpose:** A 30-year vision for Huntingdonshire, co-created with residents, partners, and stakeholders, with ambitions for place, people, economy, and environment.
- **Key Themes:** Five "Journeys" – Pride in Place, Inclusive Economy, Health Embedded, Environmental Innovation, and Travel Transformed.
- **Role:** Provides overarching direction and ambition for strategies and decisions, ensuring Huntingdonshire remains one of the best places to live.

b. Corporate Plan (2023–2028)

- **Purpose:** The council's main strategic document, reviewed annually, with three key priorities:
 1. **Improving quality of life for local people**
 2. **Creating a better Huntingdonshire for future generations**
 3. **Doing our core work well** (delivering high-quality, value-for-money services with strong compliance)
- **Alignment:** Translates the ambitions of Huntingdonshire Futures into clear, measurable objectives and actions for the council and its services.

c. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

- **Purpose:** Sets out the council's financial strategy and budget for the next five years, ensuring resources are aligned to priorities and statutory duties.
- **Key Features:**

- Responds to financial pressures (e.g., inflation, government funding, service demand)
- Supports delivery of the Corporate Plan and transformation priorities
- Includes savings, income generation, and investment plans to maintain financial sustainability.

d. Transformation Plan

- **Purpose:** The council's approach to delivering change, service improvement, and innovation across all services.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Draws directly from service plans; major and operational projects, and programmes** — not standalone but directly informed by service plans projects classified as major or operational projects, and programmes, ensuring that transformation is practical, deliverable, and aligned to council priorities.
 - **Governance:** Overseen by the Officer-led Transformation Board (strategic focus, prioritisation, assurance)
 - **Vision:** To be a leading Local Authority preparing for the future; with our services 'doing things well', and delivering a positive legacy for the people of Huntingdonshire as a place to live, work, study and visit.
 - **Scope:** Includes major and operational projects delivering service improvement and transformational change with a cross-cutting focus (e.g. digital, workforce, financial efficiency, place and community).
 - **Assurance:** Dynamic reporting and escalation, with clear benefits realisation and alignment to the Corporate Plan.

How the Framework Works

- **Integration:** The Place Strategy sets the long-term vision; the Corporate Plan translates this into annual priorities; the MTFP ensures resources are available; the Transformation Plan delivers the change needed to achieve outcomes.
- **Service Plans:** Each service reviews its Service Plan annually, aligned to the Corporate Plan and MTFP, identifying transformation projects and improvement actions.
- **Major and Operational Projects & Programmes:** Transformation activity is drawn from service plans and the council's portfolio of major projects, operational projects and programmes, ensuring a pipeline of change that is strategically managed and resourced.
- **Governance:**
 - The Officer-led Transformation Board provides strategic oversight, prioritises resources, and ensures delivery of the most impactful change.

Links

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