

GROWING SUCCESS – CORPORATE PLAN

(Report by the Head of Policy)

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Cabinet to endorse an updated version of the Council's Corporate Plan – Growing Success – prior to its consideration and adoption by the Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council have adopted a Corporate Plan – Growing Success – which includes a series of measures or local performance indicators to help judge levels of success in achieving priorities. Growing Success provides the context for the Councils comprehensive performance management framework. This framework provides for quarterly reporting of progress against targets and an end of year review of results and targets so that the Council are focused on achieving their priorities.
- 2.2 Earlier this year, in considering the end of year results, the Council adopted a process for reviewing and updating Growing Success. This reflected the perception that the Plan – particularly the supporting objectives – needed to be more specific and understandable. In particular significant activities and projects needed to be linked to the Plan along with the underlying day to day activities set out in service plans.

3. THE PROCESS OF REVIEW

- 3.1 From an early stage Executive Councillors felt that members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels should have a close involvement in the review of the objectives prior to consideration by the Cabinet and Council.
- 3.2 To facilitate this review a working group comprising members of both Overview and Scrutiny Panels was established to undertake a detailed review of the Plan. In addition drafts of the Plan have been considered by both the Panels individually and, on two occasions by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework).
- 3.3 Important aspects in the development of the updated Plan have been the setting of short term priorities in areas where the Council wishes to seek significant progress. This will facilitate achievement in areas where there are identified local needs or in aspects of the Councils performance where development is necessary.
- 3.4 The updated version of the Plan appended to the agenda separately has been considered and endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework). At its meeting on 3rd November 2006 that Panel undertook to continue to examine the Plan both in terms of managing performance and, more particularly, in ensuring that the targets in it were both realistic and, as appropriate stretching in order to achieve the Councils priorities.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The review of the Councils Corporate Plan has been undertaken over an extended period to provide an opportunity for Members to be involved and support the setting of objectives within the Plan. The Plan sets out a series of short term priorities which will form the basis of performance management reporting.


5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Members of the Cabinet are invited to endorse the updated Corporate Plan – Growing Success – prior to its submission to the Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Growing Success – Corporate Plan
Reports to and minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework) – 14th November 2006,
Cabinet – 19th October 2006,
Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Planning and Finance) – 10th October 2006, Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Delivery) – 3rd October 2006.
Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework) – 5th September 2006, and Cabinet – 8th June 2006.

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