# 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008

# OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL (CORPORATE & STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK)

# GROWING SUCCESS – CORPORATE PLAN (REPORT BY THE HEAD OF POLICY AND STRATEGIC SERVICES)

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Panel with an opportunity to comment on Growing Success, the Council's corporate plan, prior to it's consideration by Cabinet and submission to Council for adoption.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Growing Success was originally adopted by the Council in December 2006. It represents the Council's statement on how it will maintain or improve the quality of life in Huntingdonshire; specifically it is the Council's contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Community Strategy, Cambridgeshire's vision/Local Area Agreement and National Performance Indicators.
- **2.2** Ultimately, our success in these areas will be judged as part of the new, Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- 2.3 The plan also sets out our objectives for organisational improvement, to ensure that the Council can continue to achieve it's overall objectives. Performance against the targets in the plan is reviewed quarterly and the plan as a whole is subject to an annual review.
- 2.4 Earlier this year the Cabinet agreed to extending the timescale for reviewing the plan so that account could be taken of the new Sustainable Community Strategy for Huntingdonshire and the Local Area Agreement for Cambridgeshire, both of which were in preparation. During the summer, an extensive process has been undertaken to examine the Council's organisational objectives and targets to take account of these broader strategic documents. The process included review of the plan by Heads of Service, the Chief Officer Management Team and the Member Working Group appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels. The Cabinet also adopted this timetable with submission to the September Council meeting, for future reviews of Growing Success as it provides a better fit with the Council's business planning budget, MTP and service planning processes.
- **2.5** The attached plan incorporates the results of the extended review.

2.6 For the priority areas identified in the plan, an attempt has been made to establish stretching targets to reflect the desire to see significant improvements in these areas in the short term – 3 or so years. In some cases, given the limitations of resources and the external environment maintaining current performance levels is considered to be a stretching target.

### 3. Recommendation

The Panel are invited to consider the updated version of Growing Success and to forward comments to the Cabinet for their consideration.

## **Background Documents**

Growing Success: the Council's Corporate Plan

Notes of the meetings of the corporate plan review working group

Sustainable community strategy for Huntingdonshire

Cambridgeshire's Vision

Local Area Agreement for Cambridgeshire

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