

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Corporate Plan 2016/18 mid-term review

Meeting/Date: Cabinet 16 March 2017
Council 29 March 2017

Executive Portfolio: Councillor Robin Howe, Executive Leader

Report by: Adrian Dobbyne, Corporate Team Manager

Ward(s) affected: All Ward(s)

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the mid-term review of the Corporate Plan 2016/18.

The Council's Corporate Plan was revised in 2016, comprising of a two year plan outlining the Vision, Strategic Priorities and Objectives for Huntingdonshire District Council. The Plan set out what the council aimed to achieve in addition to the core statutory services.

It was agreed that a 'light touch' review of the Plan would take place in early 2017, to identify whether actions and measures were still fit for purpose i.e. which have been achieved and could be removed, and to consider whether any new actions and measures should be included for 2017/18.

The refreshed plan is still in a draft format awaiting final agreement from Heads of Service and individual Portfolio Holders on actions and measures to be included. The schedule for completion is mid-March prior to submission on 21 March for approval at the Council meeting on 29 March 2017.

Recommendation(s):

That Cabinet provide comment on the draft mid-term review of the Corporate Plan 2016/18.

1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT ABOUT/PURPOSE?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the draft mid-term review of the Corporate Plan for 2016/18.

2. WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council needs a clear vision with strategic priorities, setting out its objectives and how these will be achieved. The Council's Corporate Plan was reviewed in 2016; it comprises of a two year plan outlining the Vision, Strategic Priorities and Objectives for Huntingdonshire District Council. It was agreed that a refresh would take place early 2017 and Members would be involved with this.
- 2.2 The purpose of the mid-term review is not about creating a new Corporate Plan but providing an opportunity to reflect on whether any changes are necessary. This review provides an opportunity to consider whether any actions or measures have been achieved and should therefore be removed and whether any new actions or measures should be included. It was also an opportunity to consider whether the actions and measures continue to be the right ones. The review took account of whether any changes due to new challenges or new ambitions (Transformation & Devolution) were necessary.
- 2.3 Quarterly performance reporting throughout the year has highlighted areas where actions and PIs could be improved. We have taken into account feedback throughout the year from Heads of Service, Officers who provide data and both Overview & Scrutiny and Cabinet Members.
- 2.4 In addition to reviews undertaken by senior managers and Portfolio Holders, a Task & Finish Group was appointed by the Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Performance & Customers). This group met on 27 February 2017 to review proposed changes and provide their views on alternative or additional actions or PIs. The views of this group were fed back to Heads of Service and Portfolio Holders with all suggestions well received.
- 2.5 All actions and PIs supporting the three Strategic Priorities were examined; proposed changes considered included minor amendment to the wording of some of the objectives, updates to work programme descriptions, removal of a small number of actions or PIs, inclusion of some new actions or PIs or revised descriptions for actions or PIs. Proposals include removal of some actions or PIs because they were complete, not relevant for 2016/17 or no longer considered a useful measure.
- 2.6 This review has been timed to coincide with the development of Service Plans, and where appropriate actions or performance indicators in Service Plans for 2017/18 have been included in the Corporate Plan. Members will continue to monitor progress made against key activities and performance data in the Corporate Plan on a quarterly basis.
- 2.7 The Corporate Plan also provides the high level stage in the "golden thread" that runs from the Plan through Service Plans to individual objectives as set out in Staff Appraisals.
- 2.8 The final version of the refreshed Corporate Plan will be submitted for approval by Council at their meeting on 29 March 2017.

3. KEY IMPACTS/RISKS? HOW WILL THEY BE ADDRESSED?

3.1 The key impact is that everyone in the Council will be clear about the vision and priorities, and have up to date information about the actions and measures to achieve this.

- Officers will be clear about what is important and their role as identified through individual objectives
- Financial Planning will be more clearly linked to corporate planning
- Service Plans will be developed more clearly linked to corporate planning
- Members will know what information they will get and when
- Portfolio Holders will be able to hold Officers to account
- Overview and Scrutiny will have the information they need to hold Portfolio Holders to account

4. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Following Cabinet final amendments to the Corporate Plan will be agreed by Heads of Service and Portfolio Holders and then submitted for approval by Council. Once adopted, it will be made available to all employees through the Intranet. Members will receive a hard copy and the plan will be published on the Council's website. The key actions and performance indicators in the Corporate Plan will be reported to Overview and Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council. This report will be an integrated report, incorporating financial performance and progress in delivering corporate projects.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Senior Management Team and Management Team have been involved in the mid-term review of the Corporate Plan, in consultation with their teams. A Task & Finish Group consisting of Members of Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Performance & Customers) has reviewed proposed changes and all Portfolio Holders continue to be consulted through the relevant Heads of Service.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not applicable for this report.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Whilst it is anticipated that there will no resource implications as Service Plans are being prepared for 2017/18 to support the Corporate Plan, any resource issues will be identified.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 No equality implications have been identified as a result of the mid-term review of the Corporate Plan.

9 REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

9.1 The Corporate Plan provides a clear direction for what we are doing, why we are doing it and what impact it is having. The reviewed Corporate Plan will continue to guide the work of services responsible for delivery of the Council's ambitions over the remaining one year period of the current Council Plan

10. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

CONTACT OFFICER

Adrian Dobbyne
Corporate Team Manager