

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 27 September 2016

Subject: Key Action Plan 2017/18

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Whitbread

Recommending:

(1) That the Corporate Plan Key Action Plan for 2017/18 be approved.

1. The Corporate Plan 2015-20 is the Council's highest level strategic document setting the strategic direction for the authority for the five year lifetime of the Plan. It focuses on a number of key areas that the Council needs to focus on during that time, and helps to prioritize resources to provide quality services and value for money. These key areas are known as the Corporate Aims and are supported by a set of Key Objectives which represent the Council's high-level initiatives and overarching goals to achieve the Corporate Aims. The Key Objectives are in turn, delivered via an annual Key Action Plan.

2. The adoption in March 2015 of the Corporate Plan, Aims and Key Objectives for the five years until 2019/20 brought with it a new approach to the delivery of the Key Objectives. Formerly the Key Objectives had a 12 month lifespan and were agreed annually alongside the budget setting process in February. The move to a five year lifespan for these objectives and an annual action plan to deliver them was not only more appropriate for the Council's highest level strategic objectives, but enabled a longer view of the Council's priorities and earlier planning of activities to deliver them. The development of annual action plans was therefore brought forward in the fiscal year to better inform the budget setting process and to allow for earlier member involvement.

3. The Key Action Plans are populated with actions or deliverables designed to secure progress against each of the Key Objectives during that year. During the subsequent years in the lifetime of the Key Objectives, annual action plans will be developed which build on progress achieved during preceding years. The Key Action Plans inform the development of detailed annual directorate business plans and other service plans setting out service provision and informing the prioritization of resources.

4. Annual action plans are working documents and are therefore subject to change and development to ensure that the actions remain relevant and appropriate, and to grasp opportunities to secure further progress or improvement. Consequently, it was agreed that the Leader of Council, in consultation with the Chief Executive, be authorised to agree any further changes to the Action Plan, following its agreement by the Council.

5. A draft Key Action Plan for 2017/18 has been developed, populated with actions or deliverables which build on work identified in the 2016/17 Action Plan, to take forward the Key Objectives during their third year. The draft Action Plan

received input from Cabinet Members at the Joint Management Board / Cabinet Members meeting on 21 July 2016 and scrutiny at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 July 2016, and comments and suggestions made have been incorporated. The Action Plan is attached at Appendix 1.

6. The Equality Act 2010 requires that the public sector equality duty is actively applied in decision making. This means that the equality information provided to accompany this report had to be actively considered by individual Cabinet members in the course of their consideration and decision making relating to this report. The equality information was provided in the Due Regard Record at the end of the report considered by the Cabinet on 1 September 2016. This was essential reading for all members of Cabinet involved in the consideration of this report.

7. The Cabinet considered the proposed Corporate Plan Key Action Plan for 2017/18 at its meeting on 1 September 2016 and recommended its adoption to the Council. Progress against Key Action Plans is published on the Council's website.

8. We recommend as set out at the commencement of this report.