

Report to Finance and Performance Management Scrutiny Panel

Date of Meeting: 21 June 2011



Portfolio: Finance & Economic Development

Subject: Corporate Strategy Tool 2011/12

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Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the creation and online launch of the Council's Corporate Strategy Tool be noted.

Executive Summary:

1. This report is intended to highlight to members the newly created Corporate Strategy Tool and its concurrent online launch. The tool will enable all users of the Council's website to explore the linkages between the Council's aims, objectives and performance indicators as well as examine current levels of performance. A demonstration of the tool will be given in the course of the meeting.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

2. In view of the corporate importance of the Council's Medium Term Aims, Key Objectives and Key Performance Indicators.

Other Options for Action:

3. The tool could not be launched online, but no other options are appropriate in this respect. The tool will enable all users of the Council's website to explore the linkages between the Council's aims, objectives and performance indicators as well as examine current levels of performance, in accordance with its aim to be recognised as an innovative and transparent authority (Medium Term Aim 3).

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4. (Acting Chief Executive) At the 23 February 2010 Scrutiny Panel meeting, members expressed an interest in seeing the Council's key objectives, targets and aims being linked together to illustrate the relationships between them.

5. At the subsequent, 22 April 2010 Scrutiny Panel meeting, a draft hard copy set of linkages was presented to members.

6. With a new set of aims, objectives, and key performance indicators now in place and in line with the Council's Medium Term Aim 3 to "be recognised as an innovative and top performing Council in Essex" this linkage tool has now been revisited.

7. In order to refresh the linkages in such a way that it can be shared with staff, members and the wider public and to help spread an understanding of how the Council's many varied aims, objectives and indicators influence and connect with each other the tool has been put together as a navigable pdf document which is to be published onto the Council's website.

8. The tool enables users to follow the links between aims, objectives and indicators as well as between the Council's directorates and the member Portfolios. In addition, links to and from the One Epping Forest Sustainable Community Strategy are included.

9. As well as these links, users will also be able to use the tool to connect online to the latest quarterly performance reports for each of the Key Performance Indicators with further links to the definitions of these indicators should this be of interest to the user.

10. Finally, the tool will allow users to connect to the current year's directorate business plans for each directorate within the Council.

11. A demonstration of the interactive nature of the tool will be given at the meeting.

Resource Implications:

The production and publication of the Corporate Strategy Tool has been met from within existing resources.

Legal and Governance Implications:

There are no legal implications or Human Rights Act issues arising from this report.

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:

There are no legal implications arising from this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Nottingham Declaration for climate change, the corporate Safer, Cleaner and Greener initiative, or any Crime and Disorder issues within the district.

Consultation Undertaken:

An early version of the Corporate Strategy Tool and draft hard copy linkages have previously been presented to the Scrutiny Panel and Management Board. Draft versions of the tool have been circulated amongst a number of staff to advise on format, accuracy of linkages and usefulness.

Background Papers:

Minutes of Finance and Performance Scrutiny Panel meetings of 23 February and 22 April 2010.

Impact Assessments:

Risk Management

There no risk management issues with the tool as any data or information contained within it is already in the public domain.

Equality and Diversity:

Did the initial assessment of the proposals contained in this report for relevance to the Council's general equality duties, reveal any potentially adverse equality implications?

No.

Where equality implications were identified through the initial assessment process, has a formal Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? N/A

What equality implications were identified through the Equality Impact Assessment process?
N/A

How have the equality implications identified through the Equality Impact Assessment been addressed in this report in order to avoid discrimination against any particular group? N/A