
DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2008-2013

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report introduces a revised Corporate Plan for the Council to consider and, subject to any comments, approve.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Until about 2001, the Council produced a Corporate Plan annually. However, with the introduction of the statutory requirement to prepare an annual Best Value Performance Plan each June, it was decided to focus specifically on the latter, as the two documents seemed similar in a number of aspects.
- 2.2 However, since 2006, the Council has re-introduced the production of the Corporate Plan as a key document to be reviewed on an annual basis. The format and content around the Corporate Plan continues to be reviewed and updated since its re-introduction and the latest draft plan attempts to build on the format and content of the 2007 Corporate Plan.
- 2.3 The draft before Members tonight reflects the decisions taken as part of the 2008/2009 budget process and the content of the Council's Key Plans and Actions Report and the Vision to Reality Document. The Plan has been discussed by the Executive and within the revised Plan's schedule of actions Members will see the responsibilities of particular Executive Members highlighted, along with the key manager.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 A copy of the revised Corporate Plan for this year will be sent under separate cover. The Plan brings together the Council's main priorities; it picks up the key elements from the 2008/2009 budget, the Key Plans and Actions Report and the Vision to Reality document. None of the information contained within it is new as such; it has simply been brought together in one main reference document. Subject to Member consideration and comment, the Plan, once approved, will be one of the main reference documents for the Council.
- 3.2 The Corporate Plan is seen very much as a working document which, along with the Annual Report (which will include a look back as to our performance (previously the Performance Plan)), to be finalised next month, explains what the Council is about, what it is focusing on and what it is aiming to do over a period. The Plan is seen as a key element in cementing linkages between service planning and the budget process.
- 3.3 Given the work currently underway within the Local Strategic Partnership around a new Sustainable Community Strategy and the work still ongoing around the Essex Local Area Agreement 2 and possible local targets, the opportunity will be taken at the half-yearly budgetary review stage in the

Autumn to re-examine and refresh the Corporate Plan and feed in any new items/issues into the 2009/2010 budget process.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The content of the Corporate Plan is in line with the decisions taken as part of the budget process and its production is funded from the Chief Executive's budget head.
- 4.2 The preparation of the Corporate Plan impacts upon and will continue to require senior officer time as it is produced and reviewed.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council **RESOLVES**, subject to any comments, to approve the Council's Corporate Plan for 2008-2013.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:-

None

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