



THE CORPORATE PLAN 2012/16 – DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council's current Corporate Plan – Leading Our Forest Communities - was approved by the Council on 21 April 2008 to cover the period up to the end of the 2011/12 municipal year. This was intended to give the Council elected in May 2011 sufficient time to prepare an updated plan.
- 1.2 The Cabinet have now produced a draft plan to cover the years 2012 to 2016 entitled “Delivering for Our Communities”. It is included as Appendix 1.
- 1.3 The intention is that this draft plan should be considered by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 29 September 2011, for which purpose all elected members have been invited. Employees will also be given the opportunity to comment, particularly on the proposed changes to the Council's values.
- 1.4 In the light of comments made, Cabinet will consider the plan again in January 2012 and put forward a final version for Council approval.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE CORPORATE PLAN

- 2.1 The Corporate Plan is the most important Council strategy as it needs to shape the way the Council works and define its ambitions. To do this it needs to work at both a strategic and service level to help bring all members and services together to work towards the same vision, values and priorities.
- 2.2 The new draft plan seeks to provide a simple and, concise summary. The structure has been refined from previous versions to make it even more accessible. The draft retains the vision for the authority first set out in the 2003 plan – The Heart of The Forest. It sets out a number of priorities and illustrates how they will be achieved under the revised portfolio structure. It proposes to update the Councils values from those set out in the 1990's.
- 2.3 The Corporate Plan is an essential element of the Council's Performance Management system. This currently includes numerous other strategies and plans which flow from and feed into the Corporate Plan. These include annual Portfolio Plans and individual service plans. It is intended that the Performance Management framework be reviewed with a view to ensuring it is proportional and fit for purpose. Proposals will be brought forward later in the year.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 It is important to communicate the plan effectively in order for it to guide further action. Much of this communication will be through electronic means and face to face communication, including employees Performance and Development Interviews. Hard copy versions will be kept to a minimum and any costs met from existing budgets.

3.2 A clear focus for the new Corporate Plan is to continue the drive for efficiency.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/CRIME & DISORDER AND EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Plan includes reference to all these considerations but of itself has no direct implications.

5. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

5.1 The Leader comments that the proposed new Corporate Plan provides a more streamlined and understandable approach to conveying the Council's aspirations.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 That Cabinet approves the first draft of the new Corporate Plan as a basis for further consideration by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

For Further Information Please Contact:

Dave Yates
Chief Executive
Tel: 023 8028 5478
E-mail: dave.yates@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Leading Our Forest Communities –
The Council's Corporate Plan
2008-2012

Corporate Plan 2012 to 2016 – Delivering For Our Communities

Our Vision

Is to be an outward looking Council, working closely with the community and in partnership with others to enhance the quality of lives of present and future generations by:

- Conserving the environment of the New Forest District for the peaceful enjoyment of residents and visitors
- Helping to create and maintain a local economy that brings opportunities for jobs and economic benefit to the area; and
- Understanding and fulfilling local needs through creating and maintaining healthy and safe communities for the enjoyment of all.

Our Values underpin how we work:

- Listening
- Trusting
- Achieving value for money
- Treating everyone fairly
- Innovating
- Delivering

Our Priorities are:

- Managing all our resources well
- Maintaining excellent performance in the delivery of our services
- Improving services to the customer
- Developing effective partnerships with other local organisations

We aim to deliver our Priorities by:

Leaders Portfolio

- Engaging the public
- Delivering through people
- Supporting local businesses
- Dealing with local emergencies

Finance & Efficiency

- Managing our finances
- Managing our physical assets
- Delivering customer benefits through technology
- Maintaining strong governance

Housing & Communities

- Managing our housing
- Helping provide affordable housing for local people
- Valuing and supporting older people
- Working with partners to keep crime and anti-social behaviour low

Health & Leisure

- Encouraging active communities through leisure and culture
- Helping improve people's health
- Managing our leisure facilities well
- Promoting opportunities for children and young people

Environment

- Ensuring streets and public spaces are clean
- Protecting the environment and promoting the wise use of natural resources
- Delivering the waste collection service people want
- Managing our coastline
- Protecting communities from health hazards

Planning & Transportation

- Enabling development which meets local aspirations
- Using planning to protect the environment and maintain local distinctiveness
- Securing appropriate sites for employment and housing in line with the core strategy
- Improving transport and traffic management