

THE CORPORATE PLAN 2012/16 – DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Corporate Plan is the most important Council strategy as it needs to shape the way the Council works and define its ambitions.
- 1.2 At its meeting in September 2011, Cabinet approved a draft plan for the years 2012 to 2016. The aim was to provide a simple and concise summary which builds on the structure of previous plans and is even more accessible.

2. FEEDBACK ON DRAFT PLAN

- 2.1 The draft Corporate Plan was considered by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 29 September 2011. Members of the Panel very much welcomed the concise format and the content of the Plan. They made one or two suggestions for improvement/clarification which have been included in the revised draft in Appendix 1. They wanted “being open” to be added to the values, and “efficiently” to be added to the “managing resources” priority.
- 2.2 Managers and other employees have also had the opportunity to comment on the draft. Feedback has been limited as it is recognised that this is first and foremost for elected member direction. The feedback received, for example in EMT sessions with employees, has been supportive of the streamlined approach.

3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan is the keystone of the Council's Performance Management system. As indicated in September and discussed at the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel it is vital that this is not just a stand alone strategy but that it links into and drives all other plans and processes of this authority.
- 3.2 Work is well underway to streamline the performance management system so that it links into the new plan and is transparent to Members, employees and the public. The intention is to have clear links within the internal and external websites of the authority so that all may see how this high level strategy is being delivered.
- 3.3 The revised Corporate Plan will also be reflected in the face to face individual Performance and Development interviews with all employees.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is important to communicate the plan effectively in order to guide further action. As indicated in section 2, most of the communication will be through electronic means. Hard copy versions will be kept to a minimum and any costs met from existing budgets.

- 4.2 The need for efficient financial management is a key priority in the proposed Plan.

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

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

6. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

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

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 That Cabinet recommends the new Corporate Plan 2012/16 for approval by the full Council.

For Further Information Please Contact:

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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
- Open and Trusting
- Achieving value for money
- Treating everyone fairly
- Innovating
- Delivering

Our Priorities are:

- Managing all our resources efficiently
- 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