

Report to Cabinet

28th January 2016

By the Leader of the Council

DECISION REQUIRED



**Horsham
District
Council**

Not Exempt

Corporate Plan 2016 to 2019

Executive Summary

Prior to the local elections last year it was agreed that our 2011 to 2015 District Plan priorities would be revised following the elections. To enable budgets and service plans for 2015/16 to be set the priorities in the District Plan were carried forward for the current financial year. In recent months Cabinet Members have discussed revisions to the District Plan with the Senior Leadership Team and have identified a set of draft priorities which are set out in the attached schedule.

Following consideration by Cabinet the draft priorities will be recommended to Council on February 24th alongside the Budget recommendations and once agreed will both form the basis for the 2016/17 departmental service plans.

The priorities have been grouped and presented under four broad headings which cover our economic, environmental, social and organisational responsibilities. These four themes will replace the six that were contained in the last District Plan and will help put individual priorities and the routine work of the council in context.

Recommendations

That the Cabinet is recommended to:

- i) Agree the draft Corporate Plan and recommend it to Council for adoption.

Reasons for Recommendations

- i) To ensure that Corporate Priorities for the remainder of the current Council are clarified and form the basis of service plans and related activity across the Council.

Background Papers

Wards affected: All wards

Contact: Tom Crowley, Chief Executive ext 5101

Background Information

1 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The current corporate plan (known as “The District Plan” was agreed by Council in February 2011 and was conceived to run for a four year period. Prior to the 2015 elections it was agreed that the incoming administration should be responsible for reviewing the plan and in order to allow budgets and service plans to be agreed for 2015/16 the fourth year priorities were rolled forward and updated where necessary, as an Interim Corporate plan.
- 1.2 In recent months Cabinet Members have discussed revisions to the District Plan with the Senior Leadership Team and have identified a set of draft priorities which are set out in the attached schedule. Following consideration by Cabinet the draft priorities will be recommended to Council on February 24th alongside the Budget recommendations and once agreed will both form the basis for the 2016/17 departmental service plans.
- 1.3 The draft priorities for the next three years are set out in appendix 1. They are allocated to relevant Cabinet Members and Directors and in addition they have been grouped under four themes which reflect the Councils headline responsibilities – Economy, Environment, Communities and Organisation. A number of the priorities have timescales attached. Others, which are at an early stage of development do not but timelines will be firmed up during the plan period and. In addition more detail will be provided in annual service plans.
- 1.4 Delivery against priorities will be monitored by the senior leadership team and will be reported periodically to members via the Finance and Performance Working Group. In addition the plan will be revised as and when necessary to reflect significant changes.

2 Relevant Council policy

- 2.1 Once adopted the Corporate Plan will be a key part of the Council’s policy framework and will help shape all aspects of the work we do.

3 Next Steps

- 3.1 If Cabinet agrees the priorities they will be recommended to Council on February 24th and published thereafter. Service Plans for 2016/17 have been prepared in draft taking account of the draft Corporate Plan and will be finalised once the Council has decided on it.

4 Outcome of Consultations

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer and the Director of Corporate Resources have been consulted to ensure legal and financial probity.
- 4.2 The Leader of the Council, all Cabinet Members, and the Strategic Leadership Team have all contributed to the development of the draft Corporate Plan and their comments incorporated in this report.

- 4.3 All members have been supplied with copies of the draft priorities. Any comments received before Cabinet and Council will be considered and reported.

5 Financial Consequences

- 5.1 The draft plan has been prepared in parallel with the budget. As progress is made during 2016/17 on the preparation of a detailed medium term financial strategy (to deal with the projected deficit to 2019/20) it may be necessary to revise priorities. Council will receive reports on this process as and when necessary.

6 Legal Consequences

- 6.1 The Council has a power of General Competence under the Localism Act 2011 and priorities in the draft plan take this into account.

7 Risk Assessment

- 7.1 As each priority is taken forward risk assessments will be undertaken, it is important that the council is aware of and manages risks.

Appendix 1

Consequences of the Proposed Action

<p>How will the proposal help to reduce Crime and Disorder?</p>	<p>Our Crime and Disorder responsibilities are recognised in the plan and will be considered in relation to individual priorities.</p>
<p>How will the proposal help to promote Human Rights?</p>	<p>Our Human Rights responsibilities are recognised in the plan and will be considered in relation to individual priorities.</p>
<p>What is the impact of the proposal on Equality and Diversity?</p>	<p>Our Equality and Diversity responsibilities are recognised in the plan and will be considered in relation to individual priorities.</p>
<p>How will the proposal help to promote Sustainability?</p>	<p>Our Sustainability responsibilities are recognised in the plan and will be considered in relation to individual priorities.</p>