

REPORT TO: Cabinet

5 February 2020

LEAD CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Neil Gough (Deputy Leader)

LEAD OFFICER: Liz Watts (Chief Executive)

2020-25 Business Plan

Executive Summary

1. The Council agreed four key priorities as part of developing the 2019-24 Business Plan. Beneath this sits an action plan detailing the activities the Council would carry out under each of the four areas.
2. The Business Plan is reviewed annually to ensure that priorities are continuing to deliver the outcomes needed for local people. When developing the 2020-25 Business Plan, the four priority areas have remained unchanged, but a review has been done on the action plan.
3. Previous action plans have not provided absolute clarity for our communities on what we plan to deliver and when. The review this year has focussed on providing clear priorities and delivery dates. This will make sure the Council can easily track progress and delivery of the agreed actions.
4. This is a key decision, as it involves the development of policies and actions which will affect customers throughout the district and the places where they live. This was first included on the forward plan of key decisions in December 2019.

Recommendations

5. That Cabinet:
 - (a) Consider the proposed 2020-25 Business Plan action grid at **Appendix A** and approve onward submission to Council for approval, with any amendments as required.
 - (b) Authorise the Chief Executive to make any minor wording changes required to final drafts, in consultation with the Deputy Leader.

Reasons for Recommendations

6. The Business Plan action grid gives clear and measurable actions that the Council will carry out up until 2025 to achieve the overarching priorities. The Business Plan is used to

ensure officer and financial resources are allocated appropriately to achieve the actions and objectives detailed within it.

Details

7. Actions from the 2019-24 Business Plan that have already been completed are not listed in the 2020-25 Business Plan. Some examples, include:
 - Improved our IT so our officers can work remotely and provide a better service to our communities.
 - Agreed a homeless strategy to make sure we target support to those in greatest need.
 - Ran a campaign to tackle fly-tipping that reached over 40,000 people.
 - Supporting people on benefits move to Universal Credit, including providing funding for a coach to help people into work.

A more detailed list of completed actions and 2019-20 successes is included in **Appendix A**.

8. Some other actions agreed in the 2019-24 Business Plan are being progressed in partnership with other organisations. Where these actions are now combined into joint action plans, they are not detailed in the proposed 2019-25 action grid. For example, a number of actions have moved into the economic action plan being carried out and monitored jointly with the Combined Authority and Greater Cambridge Partnership.
9. The actions within the proposed action grid document at **Appendix A** have been split between priorities for the first twelve months of the plan and other longer-term objectives. All priorities proposed for the first year of the plan include measures that make sure we can monitor and evaluate progress.

Implications

10. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:-

Financial

11. The Council's Business Plan is agreed at the budget setting meeting to ensure that actions can be fully resourced and funded.

Legal

12. None.

Staffing

13. As part of the action plan refresh process, resourcing has been considered to ensure deliverability of Council priorities.

Risks/Opportunities

14. The process of refreshing the Council's action plan will improve Business Plan performance reporting for 2020 onwards and ensure resources are clearly focussed towards delivering priorities.

Equality and Diversity

15. The action plan reaffirms the Council's commitment to be an employer of choice for people with disabilities. Actions within the Business Plan will require the completion of Equality Impact Assessments for individual projects.

Climate Change

16. One of the four key priority areas within the Business Plan is being 'Green to Our Core'. This priority makes sure that the environment and environmental impacts are at the centre of all the work we do.

Consultation responses

17. A detailed public consultation was carried out to develop the four key themes as part of the 2019-24 Business Plan. These four areas remain unchanged. Senior Officers and Cabinet have worked together to develop the proposed action grid. This is to make sure that it can be resourced.

Effect on Council Priority Areas

18. This process does not change any of the overarching themes, but will establish clear priorities falling within each of these for the next business planning period.

Background Papers

[2019-24 Business Plan Action Grid](#)

Appendices

Appendix A: Draft 2020-25 Business Plan Action Grid

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