

To: City Executive Board

Date: 9 February 2011

Item No: 8

Report of: Head of Policy, Culture & Communications

Title of Report: CORPORATE PLAN 2011-15

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To present the draft Corporate Plan 2011-2015

Key decision: Yes

Executive lead member: Cllr Bob Price

Report approved by: Cllr Bob Price, Peter Sloman

Finance: Nigel Kennedy

Legal: Jeremy Thomas

Policy Framework: Corporate Plan 2011-15

Recommendation(s):

To agree draft copy and targets for those sections of the Corporate Plan 2011-2015 that require extensive updating.

Background

1. This report sets out draft copy and targets for those sections of the Corporate Plan 2011-2015 that require extensive updating.
2. The City Council's corporate plans over the last three years have affirmed the Council's ambition – developed with our partners, including business, community organisations, the health and education sectors and the County Council – to make Oxford a world-class city for everyone. They have also affirmed our plans for transforming the way that the Council performs. We intend to be an efficient and effective council, delivering high quality services and excellent value for money for all our citizens.

3. The Corporate Plan 2011-15 reaffirms these ambitions. However, the policy and financial frameworks which have been put in place by the new central Government have significantly changed the contexts in which we are attempting to realise these ambitions. This plan sets out the changed policy and financial contexts in which we are working and the City Council's response to this changed environment.

This year's plan

4. The City Council has moved to a four-year budgeting and planning cycle and this is reflected in this Corporate Plan.
5. We remain committed to our core ambitions of building a world class city for everyone and continuing to transform our own performance. We have refocused the priorities that underpin our core ambition in the light of the needs of our city in this changed environment and the budget adjustments that we have had to make. The City Council's priorities for the next four years are:
 - A vibrant and sustainable economy
 - Meeting housing need
 - Strong and active communities
 - Cleaner greener Oxford
 - An efficient and effective council.
6. Key themes in the Corporate Plan are:
 - protecting vulnerable communities, e.g. by improving the quality of Council housing and houses in multiple occupation in the private rented sector; and reducing the numbers of people in temporary accommodation.
 - Investing in Oxford's future, e.g. by building new houses; and improving leisure facilities by building a new competition pool at Blackbird Leys.
 - Strengthening local democracy, e.g. by developing area committees into more inclusive neighbourhood forums; and ensuring that the Council is open and transparent.
 - Providing leadership to the city, e.g. by supporting proactive partnership activities such as the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to create the right environment for economic growth in our area; and the transition to a low carbon economy.
7. The plan has significantly reduced the number of measures attached to each of the priorities. Over the next four years we plan to focus on a smaller number of measures that more accurately reflect our strategic ambitions.
8. This plan stresses that many of the key issues that are important to the well-being of our city and its people are beyond the direct control of the City Council. A vigorous and committed partnership approach is required if these issues are to be successfully addressed.

9. The plan, when finally published, will be designed in the same accessible style as in previous years.

Risk implications

10. Details of projects and actions which contribute to the delivery of corporate priorities will be found in the Council's Service Transformation Plans. Risk assessments against these projects and actions will also be found there.

Equalities implications

11. The City Council's overriding concern in formulating its budget and Corporate Plan has been to protect vulnerable communities. The People and Equalities team have prepared a full Equalities Impact Assessment of the budget and its implications.

Consultation

The draft Corporate Plan 2011-15, amended in the light of any changes agreed by the City Executive Board, will go out to community consultation. This will include:

- Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee on 22 February 2011
- Website links sent to key stakeholders and community groups
- An item in the Oxford Mail directing people to the web link.

A document amended in the light of community consultation will come back to CEB on 13 April. It will go to Full Council for approval on 18 April.

Distribution

12. The Corporate Plan will be distributed in the following ways:
 - The full-length document will be published in PDF format on our website. A link to this PDF will be forwarded to all Councillors, key stakeholders, staff and libraries.
 - A summary leaflet version of the plan will be produced and distributed to all Councillors and all members of staff. Copies will be available for further distribution at Council outlets and elsewhere. A PDF of the summary version will also be posted on the website.
 - A highlight summary will be included in Your Oxford.

Recommendation:

- 1. To agree draft copy and targets for those sections of the Corporate Plan 2011-2015 that require extensive updating.**

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Version number: 2