

To: City Executive Board

Date: 12 February 2015

Report of: Head of Policy, Culture and Communications

Title of Report: Adoption of the Corporate Plan 2015-19

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To report on the consultation on the draft Corporate Plan 2015-19 and propose its adoption.

Key decision: Yes

Executive lead member: Cllr Bob Price, Board Member for Corporate Strategy, Economic Development and Planning

Policy Framework: Corporate Plan 2015-19

Recommendations: That the City Executive Board:

1. Approves the draft Corporate Plan 2015 -19 as set out in Appendix 1.
2. Recommends that Full Council approves the draft Corporate Plan 2015 – 19
3. Delegates authority to the Head of Policy, Culture and Communications to make minor textual changes to the Corporate Plan 2015 -19 in advance of formal publication.

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Draft Corporate Plan 2015 – 19
- Appendix 2 Proposed changes to Corporate Plan Targets
- Appendix 3 Rationale for changes to Corporate Plan Targets
- Appendix 4 Equalities Impact Assessment
- Appendix 5 Corp Plan and Budget 2015 -19 Consultation Results Final Report

Background

1. The Corporate Plan is the City Council's over-arching strategic document. The draft Corporate Plan 2015-19 sets out:
 - the links between the demographic needs of the city and the Council's priorities
 - progress on delivering our priorities
 - high-level details of the budget through which these priorities will be funded.
2. The City Council's corporate plans over the last few 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.
3. This plan updates and takes forward the corporate priorities agreed by Council in recent years. The content of the draft Corporate Plan 2015 -19 is attached in Appendix 1.

This year's plan

4. We remain committed to our core ambitions of building a world- class city for everyone and continuing to transform our own performance. The City Council's priorities for the next four years are:
 - A vibrant and sustainable economy
 - Meeting housing needs
 - Strong and active communities
 - Cleaner greener Oxford
 - An efficient and effective council.
5. Performance measures and targets have been reviewed in the light of performance for the year to date and changes to the circumstances in which we work.
6. 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 and the need for effective partnership working underpins all sections of the plan.

Legal Issues

7. There are no direct legal implications relating to the draft Corporate Plan 2015 – 19.

Financial Issues

8. The draft Corporate Plan is underpinned by the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan which outlines how the objectives within the Corporate Plan will be funded. The Council's Budget for 2015-19 is presented elsewhere on this CEB agenda.

Environmental Impact

9. The commitment to make Oxford a cleaner, greener city is directly reflected in the Cleaner, Greener Oxford corporate priority and underpins all of the Council's activities.

Level of Risk

10. The Corporate Plan is an overarching strategic document, which is underpinned by a series of supporting documents. Details of projects and actions which contribute to the delivery of corporate priorities will be found in the Council's service plans and other delivery plans. Risk assessments against these projects and actions will be found in those documents.

Equalities Impact

11. An equalities impact assessment is attached. The City Council's overriding concern in formulating its budget and Corporate Plan has been to expand the options and opportunities available to the people of our city. We particularly aim to expand opportunities for those who live in the more deprived areas.

Consultation

12. Consultation on the draft Corporate Plan and draft Budget 2015-2019 opened on 24th December 2014 and closed on Saturday 31st January 2015. The consultation was available on the Council's website and a paper version of the survey was printed in the Oxford Mail. Paper copies were available on request.
13. Over 900 individuals and key stakeholders were invited to take part in the consultation.
14. In summary, respondents were broadly supportive of the Council's priorities and their interdependence. Respondents felt that the need for the Council to be efficient and effective remained a high priority.

Oxfordshire County Council welcomed the draft Corporate Plan as "a bold vision for the future shaping of the city" and made a number of helpful comments which have been reflected in the revised draft. These include:

- actively supporting place shaping initiatives such as Barton, Westgate, Northern Gateway, Headington, Oxpens and Oxford Station
- working with the City Council in its new approach to neighbourhood management in the most deprived communities

- preferring a coordinated approach to schemes and initiatives around schools, NEETs and apprenticeships
- welcoming the City Council's interest in providing services for young people, and strongly supporting the need for a coordinated response. The County Council notes that commitment to joint working in this area is evidenced through the Working Together agreement that has recently been signed with the City and County Councils

15. The full list of responses to consultation is presented in Appendix 5.

Publication and Distribution

16. The published 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*.

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Background Papers: None