

To: City Executive Board

Date: 7th December 2011

Report of: Head of Policy, Culture & Communications

Title of Report: CONSULTATION CORPORATE PLAN 2012-17

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To introduce the Corporate Plan 2012-2017

Key decision: Yes

Executive lead member: Cllr Bob Price

Policy Framework: Corporate Plan 2012-17

Recommendation(s):

City Executive Board is recommended to agree copy and targets for the Consultation Corporate Plan 2012-2017 and authorise its release for consultation.

Background

1. The Corporate Plan is the City Council's key strategic document. This Corporate Plan updates and takes forward the key themes of the plan that was agreed by Council last year. It sets out the strategic direction of the Council over the next five years.
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.

This year's plan

3. This Corporate Plan retains the structure of the plan that was agreed by Council last year. The information within it has been updated and rolled forward. The plan sets out the progress that the Council has made in delivering against its priorities over the last twelve months and set out its areas of focus for the coming year.

4. The City Council has moved to a five-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. 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.
6. Within the context of these overarching priorities, the key themes in the Corporate Plan are as in last year's plan:
 - Investing in Oxford's future
 - Protecting vulnerable communities
 - Strengthening community engagement
 - Embedding the principles of sustainability and carbon reduction
 - Providing leadership to the city
7. The plan retains the significantly reduced number of measures that were agreed last year on the grounds that these accurately reflect our high-level 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.

Risk implications

9. The Corporate Plan is an overarching strategic document, which is underpinned by a series of policy and strategy 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 implications

10. An equalities impact assessment is attached. The City Council's overriding concern in formulating its Corporate Plan and budget has been to protect vulnerable communities.

Consultation

11. The consultation period will begin on 8th December, following City Executive Board approval on the 7th December. The consultation will last for four weeks. A draft amended in the light of consultation will come back to City Executive Board on 8 February and proceed to full Council on 20 February.

12. Consultation will consist of:

- A Talkback survey, using the Council's citizens' panel.
- A website survey
- Website link sent to key stakeholders and community groups
- An item in the Oxford Mail directing people to the web link.
- Scrutiny Committees.

Publication and Distribution

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

14. 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:

City Executive Board is recommended to agree copy and targets for the Consultation Corporate Plan 2012-2017 and authorise its release for consultation.

Name and contact details of author:

Peter McQuitty,
Head of Policy, Culture & Communications,
01865 252780, pmcquitty@oxford.gov.uk
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