

POLICY AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY PANEL

Monday 20 July 2020

CABINET

Wednesday 22 July 2020

REVISED CORPORATE ACTION PLAN 20/21

Report of the Strategic Planning Manager

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel

- (1) comments on the attached draft revised Corporate Action Plan for 2020/21 at Appendix 1.**

It is recommended that Cabinet

- (2) approves the attached draft revised Corporate Action Plan for 2020/21 at Appendix 1.**

Summary

The report proposes a revised set of high-level priority actions in each Cabinet Portfolio area for delivery in 20/21. The Corporate Action Plan (CAP) reflects the ambition of the Council to deliver for residents and businesses in the borough, and now incorporates measures to support response and recovery in relation to the Covid19 pandemic.

Statutory Powers

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 i.e. the Local Authority's general power of competence, including power to act for the benefit of its area or persons resident or present in its area.

Strategic Implications

1. The report relates directly to all the Council's Corporate Plan (2015-2025) objectives, proposing a range of ambitious and innovative actions and projects to deliver benefits for the borough and helping to fulfil the Council's mission of Supporting Communities and Improving Lives.

Corporate Action Plan (CAP)

2. The Corporate Action Plan is a statement of intention to carry out actions against a set of priorities, for residents, Councillors, staff and stakeholders, to visibly and meaningfully demonstrate its commitment to meeting Corporate Plan objectives. The Community Investment Programme has been a longstanding way of planning capital schemes and can be read alongside this document.
3. The Corporate Action Plan:
 - (a) Details a clear set of actions (services, projects, partnerships) that are chosen to have impact on corporate objectives, for the year ahead. (In some cases actions will fall across more than one year.)
 - (b) Lists actions by Portfolio for each Cabinet member to sponsor and champion. Local Area actions are determined by Local Area Committees and are included in this CAP as an important feature of the way the Council delivers benefits for residents; actions of corporate significance may appear as Local Area actions e.g. actions relating to Eastleigh Town Centre. Local Area Action Plans completed and approved earlier this year are attached in Appendices 2-6.
 - (c) Lists actions that have been identified from discussions between: Strategic Planning Team, Senior Delivery Managers, Portfolio holders, Programme managers, Finance and others.
 - (d) Gives the primary focus for quarterly strategic reviews including Portfolio holders. Strengthens the Portfolio role and encourages Cabinet members to act as strategic champions. Encourages cross-Cabinet debate on the overall suite of actions and distribution of resource across the Council.
 - (e) Provides a rationale and/or (KPI) measure so that the successful implementation (performance) of the action can be measured, by managers, Portfolio holders and Scrutiny members. Some actions do not lend themselves easily to quantifiable measurement.
 - (f) Helps provide staff with a greater sense of cohesion, perspective and direction for the future year. Enables the Council to reflect at the end of the year on performance and levels of achievement. Provides material for both internal and external communication and helps in the planning of communications.

- (g) The CAP in future years would again emerge out of discussions between Councillors, Management Team, Strategy leads, Finance and senior staff, including the use of business cases and accurate costing of actions. The agreed set of actions would inform the size and shape of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).
4. Appendix 1 shows the draft 20/21 CAP. The use of a published programme of deliverables is commonplace across Local Authorities with styles, lengths and content varying.
 5. The draft CAP 20/21 was previously presented to Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel on 12 March 2020 and was due to be presented Cabinet on 19 March 2020. The CAP has been redrafted to include measures arising from the Covid19 pandemic. The pandemic has created increased levels of uncertainty in the Council's operating environment including the economy and the way residents and businesses might act in the future; CAP actions and their timescales may therefore need to change during the year as the impact of Covid19 becomes clearer and to fit with the Council's Recovery plans.
 6. An outturn of the 19/20 CAP is also attached at Appendix 7.

Financial Implications

7. None. Actions in the CAP are developed in conjunction with Finance and costed as part of the Council's financial planning. The draft CAP for 2020/21 does not make spending commitments above budget levels agreed in the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

Risk Assessment

8. The Council risks operating in a reactive way if it does not clearly prioritise and plan.
9. All the actions in the CAP are subject to the Risk Management policy and practice, via Service Plans and project management.

Equality and Diversity Implications

10. The Equality Act is relevant to the decision in this report as the decision relates to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity, or fostering good relations between different people. Equality implications are considered for in the design of actions and projects (e.g. at Project Initiation stage), and impacts reported via committee reports.
11. The CAP includes a specific action to renew the Council's Equalities Strategy and Action Plan, which will include measures to meet the Council's general and specific duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

12. The CAP includes actions to specifically respond to the Climate and Environment Emergency declared by the Council in July 2019. All the actions aim to have a positive effect on climate and the environment where possible. Decisions on specific actions and projects are taken with due regard for climate and environmental issues and reported in committee reports.

Conclusion

13. The Corporate Action Plan sets out a range of ambitious measures to fulfil the objectives in the Corporate Plan 2015-2025.

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STRATEGIC PLANNING MANAGER

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Appendices Attached: 7

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 100D

The following is a list of documents which disclose facts or matters on which this report or an important part of it is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. This list does not include any published works or documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information.

Corporate Plan 2015-2025