



Report of the Chief Officer (Executive Support)

Executive Board

Date: 5th July 2006

Subject: The Council Plan 2006/07

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| Electoral wards affected: |
| All |

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| Specific implications for: |
| Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Women <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Narrowing the gap <input type="checkbox"/> |

Eligible for call In

Not eligible for call in
(Details contained in the report)

Executive Summary

At the June meeting of Executive Board, Members received a report regarding the Council Plan and agreed to recommend its approval to Members of Full Council at their meeting on 21 June 2006. Members noted that the Council Plan would continue to be refined up until its formal approval by Members of Council and duly authorised the Chief Executive to make any necessary amendments prior to its formal publication by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2006. The plan has now been completed and is presented back to members of Executive Board as a final document. The plan provides the first annual progress report on the council's Corporate Plan (2005 – 2008) and sets out what the council intends to achieve against our corporate priorities over the course of the twelve months ending March 2007. The plan also reports against statutory, corporate plan and local key performance indicators for the year ending 31 March 2006. The plan has been circulated as a hard copy document to Members of the Executive Board and is available on the Council's website.

1.0 Background information

1.0 Under Section 6 of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council is required to publish an annual performance plan by 30 June each year. All authorities categorised in CPA as 'Excellent' and 'Good' must include the following items in their Performance Plan:

(a) Details of performance:

- outturn performance over the past year on all Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs)¹
- targets for the current year and subsequent 2 years for all BVPIs.

¹ For plans published by June 2005, the reference to 'past year' relates to 2004/05

(b) A brief statement on contracts. The authority should state and certify that all individual contracts awarded during the past year which involve a transfer of staff comply, where applicable, with the requirements in the Code of Practice on Workforce Matters in Local Authority Service Contracts.

1.1 The council chooses to comply with this statutory requirement through the publication of the Council Plan. This year's Council Plan is the first annual progress report of the council's Corporate Plan (2005-2008), setting out what the council has achieved. The 2006/07 Council Plan also presents what the council aims to achieve against the corporate priorities over the next twelve months.

1.2 The Council Plan was agreed at the meeting of Full Council on Wednesday 21 June 2006.

2.0 Further Amendments

2.1 The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, provide that any modification to any plan or strategy which comprises the council's Budget and Policy Framework must be approved or adopted by Full Council unless at the time of approving the plan or strategy, the Council has delegated freedom to the Executive to make any necessary "in-year" modifications.

2.2 At the meeting of Full Council on 21 June it was agreed that the Executive be authorised to make any necessary "in year" amendments in the light of experience gained in implementing the Plan and these changes be reported retrospectively to Full Council where appropriate.

3.0 Implications for council policy and governance

3.1 The following paragraph is included in the council's Corporate Governance Statement:

"The council has a statutory responsibility to produce an annual report containing Best Value Performance Indicator information – 'The Best Value Performance Plan by 30 June'. The council chooses to comply with this statutory requirement through the publication of the Council Plan. The BVPIs are subject to independent verification by the council's appointed auditors; any amendments to the BVPI information following verification will be published as an addendum at a later date, this information will also be available on the council's internet site."

4.0 Legal and resource implications

4.1 The council has a statutory responsibility to produce an annual report containing Best Value Performance Indicator information.

4.2 Financial resources required for the publication of the Council Plan are budgeted for within the council's annual budget.

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 That the Executive Board receives and endorses the final Council Plan, which was published by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2006.