



Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement)

Full Council

Date: 2nd July 2008

Subject: Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11

Electoral Wards Affected:

ALL

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11 is a high level plan which sets out the strategic outcomes, improvement priorities and targets the Council has agreed with its partners for Leeds for the next three years. The Leeds Strategic Plan fulfils the requirements for the Council to agree a Local Area Agreement with the Government. The Council has prepared a Council Business Plan to support the delivery of its contribution to the Leeds Strategic Plan. This report seeks approval from Full Council for this plan.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 This report seeks the formal approval of the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11 from Full Council.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Executive Board approved a corporate planning framework for the Council in July 2007. The strategic element of this framework includes two high level plans which set the policy objectives for the organisation and our partnership working. These are:
- **Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11** - which sets out the customer/citizen (external) focused strategic outcomes being sought by the council and its partners for the city. This plan includes the requirement to produce a Local Area Agreement and is the key delivery mechanism for the Vision for Leeds 2004-2020.
 - **Council Business Plan 2008-11** - which sets out what the council needs to do internally to enable the organisation to achieve the Leeds Strategic Plan. That is outlining the business development, organisational change, process transformation and financial planning activities that we will be undertaking over the next three years.
- 2.2 These plans both form part of the budget and policy framework within the Constitution and their formal approval is by Members of Full Council.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan is a partnership plan and every strategic outcome, improvement priority, indicator and target in this plan is shared with the Council's partners. Partners have formally 'signed up' to contributing to the delivery of relevant targets. The Council will consult with its partners when the targets are reviewed and revised and partners in turn have a duty to cooperate with the Council in setting and revising targets and to have regard to those targets when setting their own action plans and budgets. 'Government agreed' targets in the Plan cannot be revised without the agreement of Government.
- 3.2 Strategic outcomes, improvement priorities and targets in the Leeds Strategic Plan reflect the most important issues for Leeds over the next three years and the level of progress needed to help deliver the improvement priorities identified in the Plan.
- 3.3 The development of the Leeds Strategic Plan has involved seeking views from a wide range of partners
- Elected Members (Executive Members, Area Committees, Scrutiny Committees)
 - Statutory Partners (designated by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act)
 - Leeds Initiative (Going Up a League and Narrowing the Gap Boards, all Strategy and Development Groups)
 - District Partnerships
 - Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (Strategy Group, Theme Forums)
 - Representatives of the business community
 - Representatives of Trade Unions
 - Council Staff (Chief Officers, Employee Focus Groups)
 - Equality groups
 - Citizen Focus Groups

3.4 Robust performance management is key to the delivery of the plan and a robust set of performance indicators and ambitious targets have also been developed and incorporated into the plan in order for us to be able to measure our progress. These indicators are a mixture of relevant indicators drawn from the new national indicator set as well as some existing and newly developed indicators of our own. The target level of performance set for every indicator is based on extensive analysis of past performance data and a realistic assessment of likely future performance in Leeds.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11 forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework as set out in the Constitution. The Leeds Strategic Plan outcomes, improvement priorities, performance indicators and targets have also been subject to Scrutiny during their development.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan fulfils the statutory requirement for a local area agreement for Leeds . The local area agreement was submitted to Government Office in May 2008. In drawing up the contents of this plan the Council has consulted and negotiated with a number of partners including public sector partners designated as statutory partners in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. These partners have a duty to have regard to the targets in the Leeds Strategic Plan when setting out their own plans and budgets.

5.2 The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-2011 requires the formal approval of Members of Full Council at their meeting on July 2nd 2008.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11 is an important high level strategic plan for the Council and its partners and supports the delivery of the Vision for Leeds 2004 - 2020. .

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Members of Council are asked to approve the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11