

Best City Ambition

Date: 20 January 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- In [October 2021 the Executive Board](#) agreed in principle to replace the Best Council Plan with an externally facing and partnership focused Best City Ambition.
- As was the case with the Best Council Plan, the Best City Ambition will be included in the Budget and Policy Framework in accordance with the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. Full Council is responsible for the adoption of the Budget and Policy Framework as set out in Article 4.
- Members resolved at the [Council meeting on 10 November 2021](#) to approve the necessary constitutional amendments to enable adoption of the Best City Ambition. Council also requested a report be considered in February 2022 detailing the final proposals for the adoption of the Best City Ambition.
- In line with the timetable for progression of the Best City Ambition agreed by Council, initial proposals were considered by the [Executive Board on 15 December 2021](#). At that meeting the Executive Board agreed to approve a period of public consultation on the proposals.
- As required by the Budget and Policy Framework it was also agreed that the Best Council Ambition proposals would be referred to Scrutiny for consideration and comment. The full document is provided for the Scrutiny Board but members are asked to comment so far as it pertains to the remit of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board. A summary of the Board's remit is provided at Appendix A for members' information.
- The outcome of the deliberations of the five Scrutiny Boards will be reported to Executive Board to inform its consideration of the final proposals. The Executive Board is also required to report to Council how it has taken into account any Scrutiny Board recommendations.

Recommendations

- a) The Board is asked to consider and comment upon the initial Best City Ambition proposals.
- b) The Board is asked to agree any recommendations of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) that members wish to be reflected in the composite report to Executive Board.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The initial Best City Ambition proposals are being referred to Scrutiny in accordance with the requirements of the Budget and Policy Framework.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 2 Consultation on the potential impact of the proposals is taking place with a range of stakeholders including members, officers, partners and the public as detailed in the appended Executive Board report (15 December 2021).

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 A full list of those individuals and groups already sighted on the proposals is provided at appendix 2 of the attached Executive Board report.
- 4 On the 15 December the Executive Board approved the release of the draft proposals for formal public consultation as required by the Budget and Policy Framework.
- 5 Additional consultation was due to take place at the 2021 State of the City meeting. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing challenges of the pandemic the event has been cancelled. Those stakeholders due to attend the meeting will, however, be invited to contribute to the consultation through alternative mechanisms.

What are the resource implications?

- 6 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

What are the legal implications?

- 7 The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) is being consulted on the Best City Ambition proposals in accordance with the requirements of the Budget and Policy Framework.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 8 The risks of the proposed approach are detailed in the appended Executive Board report.

Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 9 The Best City Ambition proposals are reflective of the Council's existing prioritisation of the three key pillars. The proposals aim to take this existing approach further by enhancing the framework through which these pillars can act as effective drivers of future Council activity.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

10 The Executive Board recommended the adoption of the Best City Ambition as an alternative to retaining the Best council Plan.

b) How will success be measured?

11 The appended report sets out the work that has taken place with the Social Progress Imperative to examine how to assess the success of the Best City Ambition proposals.

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

12 All five Scrutiny Boards will consider the proposals during January 2022 alongside the public consultation.

13 Scrutiny Boards will report any recommendations to the Executive Board ahead of its meeting in February 2022 and Full Council will consider the final proposals at its meeting the same month.

Appendices

14 Appendix A: Summary of functions that fall within the remit of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

15 Appendix B - Best City Ambitions – initial proposals ([Executive Board Report, 15 December 2021](#))

Background papers

16 Leeds 2030: Shaping our Best City Ambition ([Executive Board, 20 October 2021](#))