

Committee: Finance and Administration

Agenda Item

Date: 8th February 2011

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Title: Draft Corporate Plan - amendments

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Item for decision

Summary

1. The draft Corporate Plan accompanies this report. Changes made since the last meeting are highlighted. A commentary on other representations is set out below.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee endorse the Corporate Plan 2011-2016 and recommend to Full Council that it be approved.

Financial Implications

The Corporate Plan is an integral part of the budgeting and financial planning function of the Council

Background Papers

3. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

4.

Communication/Consultation	The plan has been the subject of extensive community engagement. Comments have been incorporated where possible but the new Government's agenda is a dominating factor.
Community Safety	Any community safety implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans
Equalities	Any equalities implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans The corporate plan can be made available in Braille, larger print or translated on request

Health and Safety	Any health and safety implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans
Human Rights/Legal Implications	There are no human rights implications Any legal implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans
Sustainability	Any sustainability implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans. Limited copies of the corporate plan will be printed. The plan will be made available via the website.
Ward-specific impacts	Any ward-specific impacts resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans.
Workforce/Workplace	Any workforce implications resulting from actions or projects in the corporate plan will be identified in the divisional plans.

Situation

Comment	Response
No evidence that residents feel they can influence decisions	The evidence is from the 2009 Place Survey
There should be tighter targeting	Noted. It is expected that this corporate plan will be modified after the local government election in May 2011
There will need to be education for the public on what being a facilitator rather than a provider of services means	This will need to part of a much wider exercise as part of the Big Society
Stansted Airport: what is the Council's role?	The Council will engage in constructive dialogue in the light of the abandonment of the 2 nd runway and the Airport's aim of working with the community
There should be targets for energy efficiency	Noted. It is expected that this corporate plan will be modified after the local government election in May 2011
More focus on reducing crime and disorder	Primary responsibility rests with the police. The Council is involved via the Community safety Partnership
Why the emphasis on children and not others?	This is because children's services was highlighted as a concern in Essex by Ofsted. Other groups of people are catered for
There is uncertainty over future funding support for economic development in the district.	The Council has maintained an earmarked reserve for Economic Development.

A priority for the Council should be to address the looming issues of an aging population.	An elderly persons strategy will be developed in 2011.
The importance of local spending was stressed.	This is addressed by the Council's Procurement Strategy.
The Council should allocate a budget for an Economic Development Officer.	There is provision in the budget for an officer to support the work of the EDSL Group.
The Council should ensure continuing priority and resources are devoted to energy efficiency measures.	The Energy Efficiency budget remains as does provision in the Capital Programme.
Appropriate budgetary allocation should be made to enable UDC to carry out its responsibilities under legislation for sustainability and biodiversity.	The proposed budget is sufficient to ensure that the Council fulfils its statutory responsibilities.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
The corporate plan fails to be published and the council proceeds with its work without clear direction	1	3	Performance management framework in place. Divisional plans produced and targets set for performance indicators. Budget and MTFS prepared in conjunction with Plan. The corporate plan ties all this information together providing coherent direction for the council in the year ahead.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.