

CORPORATE PLAN

Cabinet – 7 November 2013

Report of	Chief Executive
Status:	For Consideration
Also considered by:	Strategy & Performance Advisory Committee – 8 October 2013
Key Decision:	No

This report supports the Council’s promise to provide value for money

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Fleming

Contact Officer(s) Lee Banks, Ext 7161.

Recommendation to Cabinet:

- (a) To consider the Draft Corporate Plan and provide suggestions for areas for improvement; and
- (b) Subject to any improvements suggested by Members being made, approve the adoption of the Corporate Plan and delegate responsibility to the Leader of the Council to approve any final amendments.

Reason for recommendation: To ensure the Council has a clearly set out Corporate Plan which sets out what the actions the Council will take to make further progress on the Promises it has made to residents and local businesses in the coming years.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The Corporate Plan is a document used by local authorities to articulate how they will deliver the vision and priorities set out by Members. The Corporate Plan is primarily designed as an internal document to provide both Members and officers with clarity about the future direction of the Council. The document will however be made publicly available and shared with other organisations such as the Council’s external auditors.
- 2 The vision for the new Corporate Plan for Sevenoaks District Council was to be more modern in its design and although focussed on an internal audience to make it more meaningful for residents. The draft content for the Plan does reference the main features that help the organisation to work and to deliver its services to a high quality. However, the majority of the draft content has a focus on the Council Promises and is intended to be very clear in what the Council has achieved over the last two years and what more it aims to achieve in the coming years.

- 3 In response to this changing focus it is considered important that Members consider the draft Corporate Plan to ensure what is being proposed delivers on the ambitions set out in paragraph 2.

Draft Corporate Plan

- 4 The draft Corporate Plan is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. The draft Corporate Plan was considered by the Strategy & Performance Advisory Committee at their meeting on 8 October 2013. Members of the Committee were broadly supportive of the draft document but recommended that new photographs of Portfolio Holders were included in the final document. Arrangements have been made for new photos to be taken and these will be included in the final document.
- 5 Portfolio Holders and Deputy Cabinet Members have also been consulted on the content of the draft corporate plan. An update on any recommendations made by Members will be provided as a verbal update at the Cabinet meeting.
- 6 Subject to any final revisions or improvements put forward by Members being incorporated it is proposed that Cabinet approve the adoption of the Corporate Plan and delegate authority to the Leader of the Council to approve any final amendments prior to the document being published.

Other Options Considered and/or Rejected

- 7 None.

Key Implications

Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Delivery of the Corporate Plan and the commitments it sets out will be achieved within the existing financial plan.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

There are no legal implications from this report. The risk of not having a properly considered and documented Corporate Plan may result in resources being directed at areas that are not a priority for the Council.

Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	There are no equality impacts arising from this report.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to	No	

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
promote equality of opportunity?		
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		Not applicable.

Conclusions

The Draft Corporate Plan is presented to Members to consider and to provide suggestions for improvements to ensure that the focus of the document and the commitments made within it are appropriate and priority areas for the Council.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Corporate Plan

Background Papers:

None.

Dr Pav Ramewal
Chief Executive