

THE COUNCIL PLAN

Council - 20 November 2018

Report of Chief Executive

Status For Approval

Key Decision No

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Peter Fleming

Contact Officer Lee Banks, Ext. 7161

Recommendation to Council: The Council Plan is adopted and approved for publication.

Reason for recommendation: To ensure that the Council has a clear and agreed vision for council's priorities for the forthcoming years that can be communicated effectively to residents, businesses, staff and partners across the district.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The Council's last Corporate Plan was adopted by Council in 2013. The Corporate Plan sets out a summary of recent progress and a vision for the future of the District. The main content of the Plan is the priorities the Members set for the Council, what we aim to achieve for the benefit of the District and the actions that will be taken to deliver on them.
- 2 Through a number of discussions with Members a new Draft Corporate Plan has been produced, that is now proposed to be known as The Council Plan. Following Members endorsement of the approach being taken, a recent Communications Peer Review by the Local Government Association has also advised that the Council's vision to be a 'seriously different council' is fitting given the strength of ambition, built on the foundations of the unique position of financial self-sufficiency.

The Council Plan

- 3 The new Council Plan will set out for the first time what the Council aims to achieve under its ambition to be a 'Seriously Different Council'. This builds on the strong foundation of financial self-sufficiency which was achieved two years earlier than initially planned under the last Corporate Plan.
- 4 Over the last two years the Council has made significant steps forward in its ambition to improve the health and wellbeing of the District. To recognise the importance this has to our residents and the Council's future direction

‘wellbeing’ will be a part of all of our priorities for the future, as well as ensuring that all that we do will be built on excellence, value for money and innovation.

- 5 The Plan has five themes, or priority areas, that focus on what the Council will aim to provide for its residents. These themes are Environment, Housing, Economy, Health and Community Safety. Under each of these themes are three promises that the Council is asked to agree that it will achieve for the benefit of the District, its residents and local businesses.
- 6 The proposed Council Plan is provided at Appendix A to this report and Members are recommended that it is adopted and approved for publication.

Key Implications

Financial

None

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

None

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

Through its Corporate Planning process the Council has made strong progress in recent years, including becoming the first financially self-sufficient Council in the Country.

Having delivered on this ambition it is considered necessary to set out a new Plan for the Council to ensure as a whole organisation we are focussed on achieving the same aims and objectives for the benefit of the District, our residents and local businesses.

Appendices Appendix A - The Council Plan

Background Papers Corporate Plan (adopted by Council in 2013)

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/downloads/file/548/corporate_plan

Dr Pav Ramewal
Chief Executive