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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>FINANCE &amp; MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 11</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> March 2011</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>FRANK MCARDLE (Ext. 5700)</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CORPORATE PLAN REFRESH &amp; UPDATED ACTION PLAN 2011 - 14</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: FM08</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That Elected Members recommend the refreshed Corporate Plan Action Plan 2011 – 2014, shown in Appendix A, to Council for approval.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 The Council approved a five-year Corporate Plan covering the period 2009 – 2014 including a list of priority actions. Quarterly performance reports are taken to each of the Policy Committees in order to monitor progress against the stated objectives. It is important that these Plans are reviewed and updated to reflect the progress made to date and any revisions to the targets agreed.

## **3.0 Detail**

### **Background**

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan is the core of the Council's Performance Management Framework. The Plan is refreshed annually to ensure that the Council's corporate objectives and priorities for action are helping to achieve the Council's Vision and reflect community priorities.
- 3.2 To ensure that the corporate priorities are fully resourced, the Medium Term Financial Strategy is informed by the Corporate Plan.
- 3.3 The proposed changes outlined by the Government have focussed on the reducing public sector spending and data burdens; the abolition of Local Area Agreements and external assessments. Greater emphasis will now be placed on improving accountability and transparency. In particular, what 'we said we would do' and what 'we have achieved'.
- 3.4 The Council has entered into a partnership arrangement with Northgate Public Services to deliver a range of its corporate services, which in turn deliver a range of

actions contained or contribute to the Corporate Plan themes. Northgate Public Services have specific responsibilities for providing strategic policy support and reporting the Council's performance.

- 3.5 This refreshed Corporate Plan continues to identify the key strategic priorities for the Council over the next three years. As a reminder, the original development of the Corporate Plan followed extensive consultation with the communities of South Derbyshire including businesses, stakeholders and partners. This is supported by a robust process of quarterly progress monitoring against these priorities.

#### **4.0 Refresh process**

- 4.1 The Council's Corporate Plan was adopted by Council in February 2009. The Plan contains the Council's vision, values and priorities over the four Council themes of
- Sustainable Growth & Opportunity
  - Safe & Secure
  - Lifestyle Choices
  - Value for Money
- 4.2 The Corporate Plan provides clear strategic direction for services in the delivery of the Council's vision of "*Making South Derbyshire a better place to live, work and visit*".
- 4.3 The Council refreshes its Corporate Plan on an annual basis. This helps to maintain its relevance and ensure that any issues impacting on the district and the authority are responded to in a timely and appropriate manner.
- 4.4 This report presents the refreshed Corporate Plan, which has been produced following a series of consultations and engagement during 2010/11 and information retained in a central evidence base.
- 4.5 The 2011/14 refreshed Corporate Plan continues the direction contained in the current Corporate Plan, including the four themes identified in paragraph 4.1.
- 4.6 As with previous versions, the Corporate Plan details key actions and performance measures for each theme. These will form the basis of performance reporting to each Policy Committee.
- 4.7 An emphasis has been placed on delivering measurable outcomes in an open and transparent manner. This is been undertaken by streamlining the number of actions and performance measures in the Corporate Plan this year to ensure that those with a high impact are a priority outcome for the Council. The differences between last year's Corporate Plan and this draft are detailed in paragraph 4.9.
- 4.8 The 2011/14 update of the Corporate Plan is linked closely with the work on the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan. This ensures the linkages between the two so that the council priorities are resourced fully. It will also ensure that employees have a clear plan for delivery to achieve excellence in service delivery.

## Revisions to the Corporate Plan

- 4.9 The focus of the themes for the forthcoming year will be the same as previous years. However, there will be a greater emphasis placed delivering measurable outcomes for our communities such as greater accountability and transparency in what we said we would do and that achieved. To achieve this, a number of key projects have been identified to support a delivery of an outcome. Progress will be measured by monitoring against a series of pre-determined project milestones and key performance measures. The outcomes for each of the themes are outlined below.

### Sustainable Growth & Opportunity

- Developing economic and employment opportunities within the District.
- Increasing recycling resulting in less waste being sent to land fill.
- Sustainable Planning.

### Safe & Secure

- Delivering a range of housing services that address community requirements.
- Safer communities.

### Lifestyle Choices

- Delivering community based recreational & cultural activities that promote a 'healthier lifestyle'.
- Helping the community to reduce its '*environmental footprint*'.

### Value for Money

- Financial resilience – a sustainable financial base maintained.
- 'Cutting costs not services'.
- Strong leadership & robust governance.
- An improved customer experience.

### Action Plan 2010-14

- 4.10 As noted earlier in this report, an emphasis has been given to streamlining the number of high priority outcomes and actions. Improving accountability and transparency, in particular, what 'we said we would do' and what 'we have achieved.' The monitoring will continue to be reported to Policy Committees. The revised Corporate Plan is shown in Appendix A.

### Corporate Campaigns

- 4.11 The priorities contained within the refreshed Corporate Plan will be supported by a series of campaigns co-ordinated by the Policy & Communications Team. These will be set out in a future report to this Committee. It should be noted that these campaigns will continue to support the delivery of the four key themes as identified above.

### Risk Management

- 4.12 The Council's Risk Management Strategy also supports the delivery of the Corporate Plan. This strategy commits the Council to minimise liabilities and costs while protecting the Council's reputation through effective and efficient risk management. The progress with the actions against high risks is monitored as part of the Council's combined performance and financial management reporting framework.

## **5.0 Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The Corporate Plan has an iterative relationship with our budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan. On approval of the budget, the resources for 2011/12 will be identified and allocated.

## **6.0 Corporate Implications**

- 6.1 The Corporate Plan is the keystone of the Council's Performance Management Framework. It is the delivery mechanism that links the '*Vision*' of the Council with the needs of the community and overall good governance.

## **7.0 Community Implications**

- 7.1 The Plan is built upon their needs and expectations of our communities and as such affects all aspects of community life within South Derbyshire. The Council is proud of its role as a '*Community leader*' and will continue to provide and deliver high quality services. It is also important to recognise the diverse range and needs of our communities and we will continue to work with key groups, stakeholders and businesses to make the district '*a better place to live, work and visit.*'

## **8.0 Conclusions**

- 8.1 This refreshed Corporate Plan reflects the needs and aspirations of the community, including both staff and leading members; and ensures that we remain fit for the future. It will continue to shape the delivery of Council services over the next three years by ensuring that resources are fully aligned to our priorities.
- 8.2 It is important that Elected Members, staff and members of the public are provided with continued information on how the Plan is impacting on delivering services within the community. This information will be provided through a series of regular reports to the Policy Committees; providing information on the council website, publicity campaigns and continuing with ongoing communication through a number of different channels and the media. In addition, the Council will continue to produce its Annual Report that is published during the summer.