



# COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council name	<b>COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
Name and date of Committee	<b>COUNCIL - 23 SEPTEMBER 2020</b>
Report Number	<b>AGENDA ITEM 9</b>
Subject	<b>CORPORATE PLAN</b>
Wards affected	ALL
Accountable member	Cllr Joe Harris / Leader of the Council Email: <a href="mailto:joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk">joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
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Summary/Purpose	To consider and adopt the Corporate Plan
Annexes	Annex A – Corporate Strategy Annex B – Corporate Plan
Recommendation/s	<i>That Council considers and adopts the Corporate Plan</i>
Corporate priorities	Respond to the challenges presented by the Climate Change Emergency Deliver good quality social rented homes Present a Local Plan which is green to the core Ensure that all services delivered by the Council are delivered to the highest standard Help residents, businesses and communities to access the support they need to ensure a high level of health and well-being
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	None

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. In September 2019, following the district council elections in May of that year, the Administration submitted its proposed Corporate Strategy 2019-23 Aim and Priorities for consideration by Council (Annex A). These were duly adopted and were to be followed by further work to develop key actions to deliver the priorities, which would be considered by Council in May 2020.
- 1.2. The advent of the Covid-19 pandemic in early-mid March 2020 resulted in the cancellation of formal meetings and the redeployment of significant numbers of staff in order to ensure not only that essential frontline services could continue to operate, but also to provide adequate capacity for the Council to fulfil its duties to respond to the emergency, particularly in terms of providing support for the elderly and vulnerable members of the community.
- 1.3. Consequently there has been a delay in the further work outlined above. However, a comprehensive Corporate Plan is now set out for consideration and is attached as Annex B.

## **2. MAIN POINTS**

- 2.1. The aim, priorities and principles that were to set the direction of the Corporate Plan were agreed in September 2019 and have received considerable exposure during the intervening period. Circumstances within the district have changed significantly in the months since the Covid-19 lockdown was commenced and whilst in some areas progress has already been made, there remains much to do to deliver against all of the priorities in the period covered by the Plan, which it is now proposed should be 2020 -2024. The draft Plan sets out the progress made to date against each of the priorities, together with the key actions that will be taken over the next four and a half years to deliver the overall aim to 'Rebuild the Council' so it can be proactive and responsive to the needs of our residents and businesses in a fast changing environment, building for the future whilst respecting our heritage.
- 2.2. One of the things which has become clear during the pandemic is the very significant role that the Council plays in relation to both the health and well-being of the residents of the district, and the sustainability and viability of its businesses. That being the case it is proposed that the priority 'Help residents, businesses and communities to access the support they need to ensure a high level of health and well-being' becomes two separate priorities, one relating to residents and communities and the other to businesses, as shown in the attached version of the Plan.
- 2.3. In addition, earlier this year Council declared an Ecological Emergency and so reference to this has been added to the Climate Change priority on the basis that the two are inextricably linked.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. The ambition set out within the Corporate Plan is reflected in the draft revised budget which also

appears on this agenda. Individual actions which have specific financial implications will be the subject of specific business cases and reports at the appropriate time.

#### **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. There are no legal implications associated with this report.

#### **5. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1. The key risk associated with this report is the potential failure to deliver against the priorities and actions set out in the Corporate Plan, and the impact this would have on the reputation of the Council and its service delivery partners. This risk is mitigated by the alignment of the Plan with the draft revised budget and MTFS

#### **6. EQUALITIES IMPACT (IF REQUIRED)**

- 6.1. No Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken in relation to the Corporate Plan itself. As each action is progressed an EIA will be undertaken as required.

#### **7. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS (IF REQUIRED)**

- 7.1. There are no specific climate change implications associated with this report. The Corporate Plan sets out a range of actions that the Council will take over the period of the Plan to tackle the climate change emergency.

#### **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 8.1. Council could decide not to adopt the Plan. This would carry a reputational risk of appearing to have no focussed plans for the remainder of this Council term and beyond.

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1. None

(END)