



**COTSWOLD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council name	<b>COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
Name and date of Committee	<b>CABINET – 11 JANUARY 2024</b>
Subject	<b>THE CORPORATE PLAN 2024 - 2028</b>
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Joe Harris, Leader of the Council Email: <a href="mailto:joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk">joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Accountable officer	Robert Weaver, Chief Executive Email: <a href="mailto:robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk">robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Report author	Joseph Walker, Community Partnerships Officer Email: <a href="mailto:joseph.walker@cotswold.gov.uk">joseph.walker@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Summary/Purpose	To present the Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2028, and agree to recommend to Full Council
Annexes	Annex A – Corporate Plan
Recommendation(s)	That Cabinet resolves to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review the appended Corporate Plan 2024-2028 and agree any modifications</li><li>2. Agree to recommend to Full Council to adopt the Plan, subject to modifications</li></ol>
Corporate priorities	The Corporate Plan is the key document by which the Council's aims and priorities are set out for a four year period. The 2024 – 2028 Corporate Plan presents variations to the currently agreed Corporate Priorities, reflecting the ambitions of the Administration in their second term.
Key Decision	YES
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Director of Governance, Cabinet Members via Away Days held 22 June and 26



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	October 2023, Overview and Scrutiny, 8 January 2024.
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## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Council's current Corporate Plan runs until May 2024, so work on refreshing this document commenced earlier this year, after the District Council elections in May. Subject to Cabinet review, the new Plan will be taken to Full Council in January 2024.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Council adopted its current Corporate Plan in September 2020, and adopted a mid-term update in May 2022, running until May 2024.
- 2.2 The purpose of the Plan is to set out the Council's Aim and Priorities. The priorities are then detailed within an Action Plan, explaining how they will be delivered, timescales and lead Members and officers involved in the implementation and oversight.
- 2.3 The new Corporate Plan, attached at Annex B, builds on the aspirations and achievements of the extant Plan.

## **3. MAIN POINTS**

- 3.1 The 2024- 2028 Corporate Plan follows a similar format to the extant Plan. This reflects that in broad terms the ambitions of the Council remain consistent with those reviewed in 2022. The priorities have been refreshed, and have been simplified to provide a 'plain English' message for residents, and to reflect the ever-more challenging financial climate in which the Council operates. The ambitions are set out below:

Delivering Good Services  
Responding to the Climate Emergency  
Delivering Housing  
Supporting Communities  
Supporting the Economy

- 3.2 The importance of these priorities is explained in the text, illustrated with examples of the Council's achievements in recent years and expanded upon with the introduction of priorities for the 2024 – 2028 period. At the end of the document, these priorities are expanded into an action table, reflecting the range of actions necessary to deliver them.
- 3.3 The Corporate Plan is a key part of the Council's governance, The document is illustrated with examples of activity and photography, to bring Council work to life. In addition, there are plans to use the Communication Team's skills to create some complementary media content.
- 3.4 Good progress has been made against actions identified in the extant Corporate Plan, providing a solid baseline of current activity. A Cabinet workshop was held in June 2023. This



provided an opportunity for Cabinet Members to reflect on their electoral mandate, their priorities and performance against extant Plan.

- 3.5 A draft Corporate Plan was presented to Cabinet at their Away Day in October 2023 for review and comment. These processes led to the creation of the Corporate Plan now presented.
- 3.6 The Plan as attached, has been subject to pre-scrutiny via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at their meeting on 8 January. Their feedback will be presented orally at the Cabinet meeting.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Ensuring there is an up-to-date Corporate Plan is key to good governance and helps to ensure appropriate political oversight of the Council's direction of travel. It also provides officers, businesses and residents, with an ability to understand what the Council will deliver over the next four years, hence providing a means of holding to account.

#### **5. CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 The attached Corporate Plan reflects the evolution of the Council's ambitions, and the circumstances in which the Council operates. Support by Cabinet will enable the Plan to go forward to Full Council, for its adoption to guide the Council's operations for the period 2024-2028.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None resulting immediately from this report.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None resulting immediately from this report.

#### **8. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 This Plan identifies the Council's priorities for the coming period, up until 2028. Not replacing the current strategy would leave the Council without an up-to-date Plan and thus without a clear framework to guide Council decision-making.

#### **9. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

- 9.1 None arising directly from this report. The Corporate Plan sets the strategic framework for the Council's actions. The decisions on these actions will review equalities impact in full detail.



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## **10. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The Council's declaration of a Climate Change Emergency and an Ecological Emergency are at the heart of the Corporate Plan.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 None

(END)