

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting23rd February 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

Council Plan - 2012-2015

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet considered a report that detailed the priorities for the Council Plan for 2012-15. The Plan set out Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's key priorities which were the Council's contribution to the Borough's Sustainable Community Strategy.

The priorities were underpinned by Service Plans within each service area and more detailed Business Unit Plans.

The plan for 2012-2015 reflected the current challenges and opportunities facing the Council and the need to continue to make the budget reductions outlined in the Medium Term Financial Plan, in the context of the 2 year settlement from central government.

It was noted that there were no significant changes from last year's plan and it reflected the fact that the main focus would continue to be the delivery of the Value for Money Programme, to meet the Medium Term financial Plan targets. Results of a review to determine the impact of current and proposed legislation/ policy changes had been reflected in revised key actions and where appropriate targets have been amended.

A copy of the Council Plan framework was provided to Members at Appendix One to the report.

Members noted the Key Council Priorities under each of the Sustainable Community Strategy Themes.

The priorities have been developed through contributions from and discussions with:

- Councillors – through seminars on the budget and Council Plan priorities and wider sharing of the revised Council Plan framework and new activity and actions
- Corporate Management Team, Heads of Service and Policy

Officers.

The plan also took into consideration the results of consultation and engagement with local people, analysis of performance information and outcomes from complaints.

Copies of the plan would be provided in the Members' library and in public libraries. A summary version of the Council Plan would also be prepared and promoted to staff through KYIT and team meetings. The Council Plan and summary version would be made available via the Internet with copies available on request.

The actions to deliver the priorities to achieve the desired outcomes were presented at Appendix 2 to the report using the same presentation of place, communities and organisation – linked to the Sustainable Community Strategy themes.

Success measures and targets were currently being developed by officers based on analysis of the latest performance data and continued emerging national guidance e.g., public health outcomes framework measures and indicators. This would form a 'corporate basket' of indicators and targets. Delegation of final agreement of measures and targets was requested for the Corporate Director of Resources in conjunction with the Council Leader and Lead Member for Corporate Management and Finance by the end of March 2012. Agreed measures and targets would be shared with all members for comment.

Achievement against the priorities and targets in the plan would be monitored and challenged via:

- Service Grouping Management Teams
- Policy Officer Group
- formal reporting to CMT through Improvement Clinics three times per year
- Twice yearly reporting to Cabinet and Executive Scrutiny
- Progress against relevant individual strands will also be reported through the LSP thematic groups
- Progress against EIT reviews will continue to be monitored through scrutiny and other existing mechanisms. Progress will be published on the web site quarterly.

RECOMMENDED to Council that

1. the priorities for the Council Plan be noted.
2. the Council Plan 2012 – 15 be approved

3. the agreement of success measures and targets be delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources in conjunction with the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Finance by the end of March 2012.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Council Plan set out how the Council would improve its services and contribute to community objectives. The plan was based on the ambitions set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy but provided a focus on the key objectives the Council needed to achieve authority wide and which needed to be monitored by Corporate Management Team and Cabinet. The Council's constitution stated that Council must approve the plan.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not applicable

Proper Officer
28 February 2012