

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....12th February 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

Council Plan 2015-18

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented a draft Council Plan for 2015-18, prior to it being submitted for Full Council approval. A copy of the Council Plan 2015 – 18 was available on agenda.

Last year, the Council Plan 2014 – 17 underwent a robust review process prior to approval by Council in March 2014. As a result , it was agreed that the refresh of the plan for 2015- 18 would be light touch, taking into consideration any new legislative and policy changes, rolling forward ongoing actions and removing those completed. Details of the Policy and Legislative changes, performance measures and targets would also be rolled forward or reviewed as required. A full review would take place next year following the May 2015 local and national elections.

New policy and legislative changes that had emerged since the development of the plan last year were considered and mapped against existing objectives and actions in section 4 of the plan. This identified where existing activity already supported any new policy changes or highlighted potential gaps. A copy of this mapping exercise was available on agenda.

Discussions took place at each Service Group Management Team meeting, providing a challenge to the list of policy and legislative changes and identifying any new objectives and actions for inclusion in the 2015-18 plan. Discussions also highlighted completed actions and considered arrangements for monitoring outcomes and provisional target setting.

The Council Plan 2015/18 was in 2 parts. The “front end” sections 1 – 3, sets out the Council’s overall ambition, vision, policy principles and priorities and provided the context in which the Council delivered its services. This was supported by narrative providing information about changing demographics, details of national policy and legislation that had informed the plan, the links to other key strategic plans, consultation activity, both internal and external challenge and inspection regimes that

supported the priority setting and improvement programme.

The second part, sections 4 and 5, provided the activity to be undertaken detailed by theme and the agreed policy principles. It set out the desired outcome, key objectives and related actions to be delivered through the duration of the plan. The final version of the plan would include a range of indicators and targets on which progress could be monitored and success measured. Targets were being considered using the latest available outturn data and where available revised targets were included in the plan however for some residual measures where year-end data was required, Cabinet was requested to delegate the decision on approval of these targets to the Corporate Director for Resources in conjunction with the Leader of the Council.

Discussion sessions had been organised for the 10th and 13th February 2015, for elected members to discuss the Council Plan 2015/18 alongside the medium term financial plan arrangements. Group discussions were also ongoing.

Further work on residual measures and target setting continued as year-end data releases become available.

A summary version of the Council Plan 2015-18 was to be developed following approval of the full version of the plan.

Both the full and summary version of the Council Plan 2015- 18 would be published on the councils Web Site following approval by Council in March 2015.

RESOLVED that authority for the agreement of the targets associated with the delivery of the Council Plan be delegated to the Corporate Director for Resources in conjunction with the Leader of the Council.

RECOMMENDED to Council that the draft Council Plan be approved.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Council Plan is one of the key policy documents within the Council's Constitution and sets out the ambition, values and direction of travel for the Council within the resources available to it.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

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

Midnight on Friday, 20th February 2015

Proper Officer  
16 February 2015