

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
Scrutiny Committee	8 February 2011
Governance Committee	9 February 2011
Cabinet	16 February 2011



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
Corporate Plan 2011- 14	Leader	Rebecca Heap	

1 - SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 1.1 The Corporate Plan is a medium term strategy which sets out the Council's priorities, how those priorities will be delivered, and how progress will be measured.
- 1.2 The 2008-11 Corporate Plan draws to a close this year. Given the number of unknown factors, it is proposed to present a Corporate Plan 2011-14 for approval early in the new municipal year; acknowledging that the existing corporate priorities remain valid in the interim.

2 – RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members note the attached Corporate Plan, with obsolete targets highlighted.
- 2.2 That Scrutiny Committee considers appropriate performance measures for 2011 onwards, and makes comments accordingly.
- 2.3 That Cabinet confirm that the approval of a Corporate Plan 2011-14 should be deferred until the new municipal year.

3 – DETAILS AND REASONING

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan is in the process of being updated and will need to recognise the external environment in which the Council and its partners operate is continuing to change, at national, regional and local level. The impact of some of the proposed changes involving partners should become clearer within the next couple of months; it will then be possible to set meaningful actions and performance measures. Given this backdrop, it is proposed that the 2011-14 Corporate Plan should be finalised as soon as possible in the new municipal year.
- 3.2 At this stage, it is proposed to retain the existing corporate priorities which remain valid for the purposes of resource allocation and budget setting, namely:
 - Clean, Green and Safe
 - Strong South Ribble in the heart of a prosperous Central Lancashire
 - Strong and Healthy Communities
 - Efficient, Effective and Exceptional Council
- 3.3 Looking forward, there are a number of proposals which may impact on the Council, how services are run and the actions that will need to appear in the revised corporate plan. National legislation such as the Localism Bill, and changes in health such as the dissolution of Primary Care Trusts may create new responsibilities – within limited resources, a degree

of flexibility is required. At a county level, a final decision on the format of our Local Economic Partnership is awaited.

- 3.4 National policy changes, such as the dissolution of Comprehensive Area Assessment and National Indicators will reduce the burden in terms of performance management. At present, central government is consulting on a standard 'dataset' of statistical returns, but discussions are ongoing around other performance measures, such as the functions of external audit.
- 3.5 The Council, along with other public services, is operating against a backdrop of fewer resources and reduced capacity. There is a clear local commitment to maintaining standards and protecting front line services as far as possible, but there are clearly challenging times ahead. A robust, measurable Corporate Plan is key to focused delivery of priorities.
- 3.6 The Place Survey, first carried out in 2008, was scheduled again for this year. Following its abolition, the Council has recently carried out a Citizens' Panel survey, in order to measure some of the key elements of resident satisfaction. When results are published, feedback will help to inform the new plan. As appropriate, links will also be made with community priorities identified within Local Area Plans.
- 3.7 In line with local strategic partnerships nationally, South Ribble Partnership is currently undertaking a structural review. Final decisions are yet to be made, however there is a clear focus on streamlining the partnership and recognising the reduced capacity available for all partners. Going forward, the partnership needs to refresh its Sustainable Community Strategy and the priorities within it; this is still a legal duty, and relevant for the Council's priorities too.
- 3.8 The Corporate Plan does not exist in isolation; the Medium Term Financial Strategy (budget) and Corporate Risk Register also support the allocation of resources and delivery of the Council's priorities. As explained above, budget proposals will be presented to Cabinet in February, based on existing priorities and known resources. A draft schedule of key corporate risks for 2011/12 is attached to this report at appendix A, so as to keep Members informed of the key risks which have been identified. The Corporate Risk Register will be populated upon completion of the Corporate Plan, and monitored at mid year.
- 3.6 Attached for information at appendix B is the existing Corporate Plan, with those targets which have been abolished highlighted in red. Given the lack of national targets going forward, work is underway to identify meaningful measures of the Council's performance that will, where appropriate, be comparable with other local authorities..

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas listed below, and the table shows any implications in respect of each of these.

FINANCIAL	None at this stage; further consideration will be given in completion of the plan.		
LEGAL			
RISK	The key corporate risks identified for 2011/12 are attached at appendix A		
OTHER (see below)			
<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings / Value for Money</i>
Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion <i>An impact assessment of the Corporate Plan 2011/14 will be carried out.</i>		<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
		<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Freedom of Information / Data Protection</i>	<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	
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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Draft schedule of key corporate risks for 2011/12 is attached at appendix A

Corporate Plan 2008-11 is attached at appendix B