

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

REFRESH OF THE COUNCIL PLAN

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report contains a refreshed Council Plan that reflects the progress made over the last 12 months, and that sets out the direction and priorities for the Council for the remainder of the 2018-2022 four-year planning cycle. This refreshed Council Plan was endorsed by Cabinet in July for adoption by City Council.

2. Updates to the Existing Council Plan

- 2.1 The refreshed Council Plan contains a number of important updates to the Plan originally agreed by Council in 2018. These are:
- Inclusion of an introduction section that sets out achievements against our initial Council Plan Outcomes and Priorities, to demonstrate progress and identify where the key challenges remain for the Council and the city.
 - A refreshed performance framework which is appended to the Council Plan.
 - Amendments to the following two priorities to reflect emphasis on reducing inequality:
 - Outcome 1, Priority 2: We will strive to maximise the investment in the city and engage local employers to create quality jobs and opportunities for citizens, especially for those in the most deprived circumstances
 - Outcome 4, Priority 7: We will work with our partners to reduce inequalities and build a fair, inclusive city for all
 - Amendment to the following priority to reflect emphasis on wellbeing:
 - Outcome 2, Priority 1: We will improve the wellbeing of vulnerable children and young people (including those with Special Educational Needs and Disability)
 - Addition of a sixth Outcome to the Council Plan focusing on tackling climate change.
 - Inclusion of a specific section focusing on how the Council will more closely work with communities at a neighbourhood level.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Subject to endorsement of the refreshed Council Plan by Full Council, the next steps will be:
- Adoption of the refreshed Plan into the Council's core business, driving strategic planning, delivery of outcomes and performance management; and
 - Engagement with Overview & Scrutiny to identify and align focussed areas of the Plan that will inform Committees' work programmes.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

4.1 Options considered include:

- Continue with existing Council Plan, without refresh (not recommended); or
- Refresh Council Plan to reflect progress against initial plan and key remaining challenges, to continually strengthen the performance framework and to incorporate specific commitments regarding reducing inequality and climate change (recommended.)

5. Consultation

5.1 Cabinet Members, Council Management Team and directorate staff have been involved in development of the refreshed Council Plan. Delivery of the Plan continues to be undertaken in collaboration with the NHS STP, Birmingham Children's Trust, West Midlands Combined Authority, wider public sector, the LEP and private sector, and VCS sector.

6. Risk Management

6.1 This report sets out the Council's Plan and Priorities, and is underpinned by the Council's Performance Framework. It thereby sets the strategic direction for delivery of outcomes. Associated risks, and how these will be reported and monitored, are captured separately in the Council's assurance framework and strategic risk register.

7. Compliance Issues:

7.1 How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?

The recommended decision is consistent with the Council's obligation and commitment to providing clarity in its key ambitions and goals and how these will be achieved.

7.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3. Financial Implications

The Council Plan 2018-22 forms a key part of the budgeting and service planning process for the City Council that takes account of existing finances and resources, and sets out the key strategic and operational outcomes that the City Council wishes to achieve.

7.4. Procurement Implications

7.4.1 None identified.

7.5. Human Resources Implications

7.5.1 None identified.

7.6. Public Sector Equality Duty

7.6.1 The 2018/19 Council Plan and Performance Framework is designed to ensure significant improvement in service quality and outcomes for the people of Birmingham towards achieving long term priorities. Some of the measures have a particular focus on particular challenges faced by Birmingham citizens e.g. unemployment, homelessness, and social care. Non-achievement may have a negative impact on external assessments of the City Council, and could put relevant funding opportunities at risk.

7.7 Background Documents

- Existing Council Plan 2018-2022

MOTION

That City Council adopt the refreshed Council Plan as the overarching statement of intent and direction to drive forward the Council's improvement journey and deliver the right outcomes for the city and its residents.