



## CABINET REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Corporate Plan 2012-2015</b>
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Cabinet Meeting Date:</b>	22 February 2012
<b>Key Decision:</b>	YES
<b>Listed on Forward Plan:</b>	YES
<b>Within Policy:</b>	YES
<b>Policy Document:</b>	YES
<b>Directorate:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Accountable Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr David Mackintosh
<b>Ward(s)</b>	All

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 To approve the Council's Corporate Plan 2012-2015 and to recommend the adoption of to Full Council

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- a) Recommend the adoption of the Corporate Plan to Full Council (Appendix 1) – text version only);
  - b) Delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the authority to amend if necessary and finalise the:
    - i) Corporate Plan for presenting to Full Council 29 February in line with the budget decisions, service plans and any other consequent changes
    - ii) Associated set of corporate measures to underpin the Plan by 31 March to be developed alongside the service planning process

### **3. Issues and Choices**

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#### **3.1 Report Background**

- 3.1.1 The Corporate Plan priorities were developed in consultation with local residents, stakeholders (including the community and voluntary sector and the business community) and staff as part of the 'Difficult Choices' campaign during 2010/11.
- 3.1.2 The Corporate Plan 2012-15 priorities were further informed by the priorities detailed within the Conservative Manifesto mandated through the 2011 May Elections. Draft budget proposals were developed to take into account these priorities.
- 3.1.3 Consultation on draft budget proposals commenced in December 2011 and continued until the end of January 2012.
- 3.1.4 Consultation feedback was used to clarify priorities, understand the impacts of draft budget proposals and inform spending/saving options to be reflected in our future plans and budget.
- 3.1.5 The development of the Corporate Plan has been informed by the consultation feedback and the Plan is presented for Cabinet endorsement
- 3.1.6 To ensure a wide participation, the consultation approach used a range of consultation mechanisms including on-line and paper surveys, engagement through our Forums and via a public meeting. A total of 272 surveys were completed, compared to 149 received last year. The consultation programme was supported by a comprehensive communications plan. A full report on the budget consultation is included within the 22 February Cabinet report 'General Fund Revenue Budget Setting 2012-15'.
- 3.1.7 The Plan will need to be reviewed and amended following Council decisions on the annual budget on the 29 February 2012. It is recommended that delegated authority to finalise the plan be given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.
- 3.1.8 Once the Corporate Plan is adopted a corporate risk review will be conducted to ensure that the service and Corporate Risk Registers are aligned to the new plan.
- 3.1.9 The Corporate Plan will be formally launched at the end of March, supported by a communications plan.
- 3.1.10 To support monitoring and delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan priorities, a number of key corporate measures will underpin the Plan. Corporate measures against each priority and the outcomes are currently in development. Detailed targets and measures to deliver the agreed priority outcomes cannot be completed until the next phase of service planning has been completed and budget decisions concluded. It is recommended that delegated authority to finalise the set of corporate measures be given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.

#### **3.2 Issues**

- 3.2.1 Cabinet are asked to consider the content of the Corporate Plan in terms of ensuring it reflects the priorities highlighted through the consultation and sets out activities and outcomes that NBC can afford and has sufficient capacity to deliver.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 The Corporate Plan 2012-2015 sets out the Council's corporate priorities for the next three years with an annual refresh. For each priority outcome a number of actions and projects have been detailed, which once adopted will be a commitment to delivery.
- 4.1.2 The corporate priorities detailed in the Plan form the framework for the Council's Service Planning process. Delivering the commitments in the Corporate Plan may require the review of some policies.

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 The plan needs to be considered alongside the budget, which can be seen as providing the resources to deliver the Corporate Plan within overall financial constraints. The service area Service Plans will underpin the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities. All objectives, measures and actions within the Service Plans are risked assessed and challenged before final approval. The challenge process includes the agreement of targets and the capacity/ability to deliver the plans with appropriate resource set aside to do so.
- 4.2.2 The key risk with delivering the Corporate Plan is the inability to meet the commitments because it underestimates the difficulties, fails to understand its environment, or lacks the necessary resources. In the Council's current financial position it will be particularly important not to commit to activities and outcomes that NBC cannot afford or has insufficient capacity to deliver.

### **4.3 Legal**

- 4.3.1 None.

### **4.4 Equality**

- 4.4.1 The plan is clear about the commitments that this Council has made to deliver an equitable service and to support a diverse community.
- 4.4.2 A full EIA on the corporate planning process in terms of content and the consultation approach has been undertaken.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

- 4.5.1 Management Board, Directors, Heads of Service and Cabinet have been consulted on the development of the draft Corporate Plan.
- 4.5.2 Partners and all other stakeholders were consulted upon priorities in December /January 2011/12 as part of the wider consultation on the budgetary challenge, in line with the Consultation Toolkit recommended consultation period. A communication package was developed to support the consultation process with the Communications Team to ensure publicity, awareness and wide community participation. Consultation included on-line and paper surveys and public meeting including community forums and residents.

### **4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes**

- 4.6.1 The Corporate Plan identifies priority outcomes and sets a framework for delivering them.

#### **4.7 Other Implications**

None

#### **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Appendix 1 – Corporate Plan 2012-2015

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