



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

25 February 2013

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Resources

Report Title	Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (2013 Update)
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1. Purpose

The Council's Corporate Plan for 2012-15 (2013 Update) is attached for approval. It was considered and approved by Cabinet on 20 February 2013.

2. Recommendations

Council is recommended to:

- 1 Approve the attached draft Corporate Plan
- 2 Delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council the authority to finalise the Corporate Plan and associated action plan in line with the budget decisions, service plans and any other consequent changes.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

The proposed Corporate Plan update and the related report considered by Cabinet on 20 February 2013 are attached.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

The implications are fully discussed in the attached report to Cabinet.

5. Background Papers

Attachments: Report to Cabinet 20 February 2013; Corporate Plan 2012-15 (2013 Update) (including Equality Impact Assessment)

Catherine Wilson, Head of Business Change, Ext.7377



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (2013 Update)
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	20 February 2013
Key Decision:	YES
Within Policy:	YES
Policy Document:	YES
Directorate:	Resources
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr David Mackintosh
Ward(s)	All

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To approve the Council's Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (2013 Update) and to recommend the adoption of, at Full Council.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- a) Recommend the refresh 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, the:
 - i) Corporate Plan for presenting to Full Council 25 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

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 The Corporate Plan for 2012/15 was adopted by the Council in February 2012. This document was a three-year plan which was subject to annual reviews. The focus of the 2013 update was to celebrate success so far and to acknowledge issues. This update consisted of a “light-touch” review.
- 3.1.2 The Corporate Plan priorities were developed in consultation with local residents, stakeholders (including the community and voluntary sector and the business community) and staff during 2010/11.
- 3.1.3 The Council key priorities were reviewed during the 2011/12 and 2012/13 budget and business planning processes. 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.
- 3.1.4 Consultation on draft budget proposals for 2013/14 commenced in December 2012 and continued until the end of January 2013.
- 3.1.5 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.
- 3.1.6 The development of the Corporate Plan has been informed by the consultation feedback and the Plan is presented for Cabinet endorsement.
- 3.1.7 The Plan will need to be reviewed and amended following Council decisions on the annual budget on the 25 February 2013. It is recommended that delegated authority to review the plan be given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.
- 3.1.8 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)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 The Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (2013 update) confirms the Council's corporate priorities for the next two 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.
- 4.2.3 The transition arising out of LGSS arrangements will need to be factored in to ensure seamless delivery.

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. No unintended adverse impacts have been identified so far. All our plans will need to be monitored in line with the public sector duties arising out of the Equality Act 2010.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 Management Board, Directors, Heads of Service and Cabinet have been consulted on the 2013 review of the Corporate Plan.

4.5.2 Partners and all other stakeholders were consulted upon priorities during 2011/12 and 2012/13 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

5.1 Appendix 1 – Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (2013 Update)

5.2 Appendix 2- Corporate Plan Equality Impact Assessment

Catherine Wilson
Head of Business Change