

Name of Committee	Cabinet
Date	
Report Title	Community Vision for 2031
Key Decision	Yes

1. Recommendations

Cabinet members consider and approve the Community Vision for 2031 (appendix A).

2. Purpose and Summary of the report

The Community Vision for 2031 is part of the development of a new medium term Corporate Plan 2007-2011. Development of the Corporate Plan is covered in a separate report.

The Community Vision was developed from drawing together work previously done by the Local Strategic Partnership, the Town Centre Commission and "Future Northampton" and building upon it with the results of a comprehensive consultation programme.

The purpose of developing the Community Vision was to produce one vision for Northampton, replacing the many and varied visions currently in circulation.

Attached is a copy of the current draft of the Community Vision. Following the consultation programme a draft was taken to the LSP conference held on the 5th of December 2006. The purpose of the conference was to allow LSP partners a final opportunity to express their views on the draft Community Vision and then to identify shared areas of work/consideration under the three new LSP themes – Neighbourhood Management, LAA, and Growth in order to develop a new Community Strategy for 2007 –2011.

Comments from the LSP conference on the Community Vision have not altered the current draft. More detailed comments will be used to inform the development of the Community Strategy.

The next steps includes the following:

- Presentation of the final draft Community Vision to the LSP Board on the 02.02.07
- Development of a new Community Strategy 2007-2011. It is planned to have a set of draft objectives ready for discussion at the LSP Board meeting on the 02.02.07
- A final Community Strategy completed for the 1st of April 2007.
- A launch of the Community Vision and Strategy possibly in March 2007.

3. Options Available

Option Summary	
a	Previous drafts of the Community Vision have been developed through consultation and debate. The consultation process has allowed for consideration of any previous drafts/options

4. Relevant Background

The development of the community vision and priorities for 2007-2011 is part of the process agreed at Highgate House in May 2006 to develop a longer term Corporate Plan.

5. Evaluation of Alternative Options

Option	Evaluation Summary
a	Various option have already been considered in the development of the Community Vision.

6. Consultees (Internal and External)

Internal	Councillors, Overview & Scrutiny, Directors, Corporate Managers, staff
External	LSP partners, Community Forums, Area Partnerships, and the public


7. Compliance Issues

Links to Relevant Council Priorities
Recovery Plan The production of a community vision and a longer term Corporate Plan is a project within the Strategic Improvement Plan and Improvement Delivery Plan. This work addresses the criticisms about lack of long-term strategic planning made in the original CPA report. These actions will also address the issues raised in the subsequent CPA progress assessment report published in March 2006.
Corporate Plan Not applicable
Other Strategies Provides direction for policy and strategy development.
Financial Implications There are currently no direct financial implications, however the associated delivery plans will have costs attached which will require further consultation and decision making.
Legal Implications This meets the requirements of the Council's governance arrangements.

Crime & Disorder Issues
The community vision contains elements relating to the reducing the fear of crime
Children Act Issues
There are no direct implications within the Community Vision related to the Children Act although all visioning and prioritising for the future will obviously impact on the children and young people in our community.
Risk Management Issues
Failure to develop an appropriate community vision within the timescales would have loss of reputation risks for the Council in the eyes of the resident of Northampton and our partners. It would make it very difficult if not impossible to properly plan the development and delivery of future services to meet the needs of local people.
Such failure would also have a negative impact on our CPA score now and in the future.
Equalities Compliance Issues
The community vision and priorities includes how the Council will provide accessible and equitable services

8. Background Papers

Title	Description	Source
None		

Name	Signature	Date	Ext.
Author	Simone Wade, Operational Manager Recovery, Policy & Governance, Legal and Democratic Services	22 nd Jan 2007	Ext 8569, Mobile 07977 047506
Corporate Manager	Nicci Marzec, Governance & Communications	22 nd Jan 2007	Ext 7431 Mobile 07956 820190
Monitoring Officer	 Deputy Monitoring Officer	24.1.07	7335
Section 151 Officer	Bill Lewis Technical Finance Manager	23 rd Jan 2007	Ext 8718

NB: In relation to Key Decisions both the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer (or their deputies) will need to sign the report before it can be accepted by meeting services

DRAFT VERSION 4

A Community Vision to 2031

"Close your eyes and imagine where you want to be. Imagine the complete journey you need to take in order to get there. Now go pack... Your reservations have been made"

Imagine Northampton in **2031!** - A place of **PRIDE, RESPECT, EXCITEMENT, VITALITY, FUN, and PASSION.**

The spirit, commitment and determination of the people of Northampton will be there for everyone to see. Northampton will build upon its historic market town roots to become a 21st century city with diverse multi-cultural communities.

People who visit Northampton will look upon it as a place where they would want to live, work and bring up a family and those who live here will want to stay.

We will celebrate all that is good about Northampton and Northampton will be all these things because:

By **2011** it will....

- **Be safer:**

People will use the city centre and move around all of Northampton at night without fear.

- **Be cleaner:**

All of Northampton will be clean and litter-free. We will work together to build a community culture of no tolerance of those who litter and pollute our streets.

- **Be healthier:**

Our green spaces, the street -scape and urban design will help to make the healthiest environment so that people have good physical and mental health and live longer.

- **Be recognised for good quality, environmentally friendly housing:**

We will continue to promote good affordable, well-designed housing for all, with attention to the environment and the use of sustainable resources

- **Be well served by modern and efficient local government:**

Local councils will have defined their role as community leaders, working in partnership to deliver this vision for Northampton. Their decisions will be easy to understand, transparent and will involve local people.

By **2021** it will....

- **Be a city:**

With a population approaching 240,000 over the next 15 years, Northampton will become city sized and as such we will develop an infrastructure that ensures that during this rapid period of growth there are enough schools, health care services, emergency services, roads, affordable quality housing and green space to support the rest of our vision. There will be excellent public services, healthy, skilled and prosperous residents who are proud of where they live and aspire to improve their lifestyle and opportunities.

- **Be a place made up from caring communities:**

Communities will be developed and built upon respect and understanding of people of all ages, status and ethnicity. We will invest in, support and promote the family in all the forms that it takes so that there is the opportunity and desire to stay together, learn from and support each other.

And by **2031** it will...

- **Be defined by its excellent transport system**

People will be able to move about the city and all of Northampton easily, hopping on and off an environmentally friendly transport system. They will have more choice of how they travel. This will free us from our dependence upon our cars to move around Northampton. Pollution and congestion will be virtually eliminated.

- **Be a major regional cultural and economic centre:**

Northampton will be a centre for educational excellence – our schools will help develop good citizens and produce exceptional results. Our colleges and university will work with local businesses to develop and retain the jobs and workers of the future.

Our traditional architecture will be mixed with new urban design. The Cultural Mile will snake through the city, joined together by our integrated transport system. Included within the Cultural Mile will be a heritage trail that celebrates our boot and shoe past. We will take full advantage of all that the River Nene has to offer and develop a water-based experience for all ages. All of this plus a specialist niche shopping experience like no other makes Northampton a tourist destination of choice.

Northampton will be a place of quality and distinction!