

Name of Committee	Cabinet
Date	29th January 2007
Report Title	Corporate Plan 2007/08 – 2011/12
Key Decision	Yes

1. Recommendations

Cabinet members consider and agree the new timetable to developing the Corporate Plan for 2007/08 – 2011/12

2. Purpose and Summary of the report

At the Cabinet meeting held on the 25th of September 2006, Councillors approved their priorities for 2007/08 – 2011/12.

These priorities have been used to inform the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy as part of the Council's budget setting process for the 2007/08 budget.

The community vision and priorities are now in place.

Owing to the extent of the policy options under consultation it is not feasible for the council to set meaningful objectives and targets in advance of the budget decisions to be made at Council on 13th February 2007.

It is proposed that following approval of the budget in February, Councillors and senior managers work together to set objectives and targets. It is suggested that a day is set aside to complete this task. This objective and target setting day would need to take place ASAP after the budget has been set so that a full Corporate Plan can be considered by Cabinet towards the end of February. This suggested timetable would allow approximately one month for Corporate Managers to use the Corporate Plan to develop their service plans in time for 1st of April 2007

The outcome of this approach to completing the Corporate Plan would be cross-cutting objectives and targets developed with our Councillors and finished in line with our Corporate Planning cycle.

3. Options Available

	Option Summary
a	This is currently the only option available in order to develop the Corporate Plan and allow adequate time for managers to develop their service plans accordingly.

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 to develop a longer term Corporate Plan.
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5. Evaluation of Alternative Options

	Option	Evaluation Summary
a	As already indicated this is currently the only option to develop a Corporate Plan but various drafts will provide further opportunities for Councillors to comment.	

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 this proposal related to the Children Act although the final Corporate Plan will obviously impact on the children and young people in our community.
Risk Management Issues
Failure to develop an appropriate Corporate Plan within the timescales could have loss of reputation risks for the Council in the eyes of the residents 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 Corporate Plan will include 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	<i>S. Lewis</i> 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

8. Compliance Issues

A: How Proposals Deliver Priority Outcomes

Recovery Plan
None
Corporate Plan
Make Northampton a cleaner, safer and greener place to live.

B: Other Implications

Other Strategies

Finance Comments

Legal Comments

Crime and Disorder Issues
None

Equality Impact Assessments
None

9. Background Papers

Title	Description	Source
Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005	Legislation	HMSO
DEFRA Guidance CNEA Implementation	Guidance	DEFRA