

COUNCIL PLAN 2019/20**Report of the Deputy Chief Executive****1. Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 The Council Plan accompanies the budget and sets a high-level framework for decision making throughout the financial year. It is a public-facing summary document that sits above annual (detailed) Portfolio Agreements.
- 1.2 The plan is developed by Cabinet, supported by officers, and is an opportunity to reflect on performance to date and policy priorities for the future. Priorities in the Plan are included by exception. The Plan doesn't attempt to describe everything the Council does; only those things that are of crucial importance in a specific year.
- 1.3 The 2019/20 Council Plan continues to be aligned with the longer-term vision and five shared outcomes set out in the Borough Plan. It incorporates the key principles identified by Cabinet, underpinned by an inclusive vision for growth and reform. The Greater Manchester Strategy priorities continue to be integrated into the Plan. The strategic narrative for the Plan builds upon these but also incorporates the medium term strategy and its five key themes which were introduced by Cabinet during 2018. These are central to the plan and its organisational delivery.
- 1.4 Initial discussions with the Cabinet and Corporate Leadership Team have focused on identifying a smaller number of more focussed and specific priorities. This will be reflected in the new approach to in-year reporting for 2019/20, developed as part of MTFP proposals on corporate governance.
- 1.5 The Plan is accompanied by an Equality Impact Assessment. This is largely a summary of the high-level position, with more detailed EIAs included with working papers previously considered by Cabinet and Scrutiny.

2. Next Steps

- 2.1 The Plan is submitted for formal adoption at the Budget Council Meeting on 21 Feb.
- 2.2 The information within the high-level Council Plan provides the basis for detailed Portfolio Agreements and resource planning for 2019/20, with progress on delivery being reported in-year through the Portfolio and Corporate reports. Following an initial review by existing Portfolio Holders, these will be finalised after the Local Elections in May. Scrutiny Coordination Committee will also continue to be consulted on the new reporting approach and format and how best to support Members in their performance management role through ensuring our performance and resource framework is as efficient and effective as possible.
- 2.3 Once 2019/20 budgets and performance measures have been finalised, draft Agreements will be reviewed post-election by the new Cabinet, considered by Scrutiny Committees in June and submitted to Cabinet for approval in July.

2.4 Looking further ahead, throughout 2019 we will be focusing on refreshing our priorities with Partners, developing a Borough Plan and subsequent Council Plan, that builds on the progress and renewed aspirations that we collectively have for our Borough. The Council is undertaking to reshape the way we work with our citizens and how we deliver services that are effective and sustainable, and the Borough Plan will reflect the changes introduced within our Council Plan this year.

3. Recommendations

The Council Meeting is asked to consider and approve the 2019/20 Council Plan for adoption from April 2019.

Further Information;

- Council Plan 2018/19 approved at Council Meeting 22 Feb 2018 available at;
<http://www.stockport.gov.uk/councilplan>
- Cabinet proposals and response to MTFP approved at Cabinet Meetings - August to December 2018. Available at;
<http://scnmodgov.stockport.gov.uk:9070/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=1015&Year=0>

Contact officer for accessing background papers and discussing the report;

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