

**Report to:** Council

**Date:** 26 Nov 2018

**Title:** Lewes District Council Plan – 2018/19 refresh

**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Planning

**Ward(s):** All

**Purpose of report:** Approve the further development and refinement of the Lewes District Council Plan as it moves into its 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

**Officer recommendation(s):** To approve the design changes and updates to the Council Plan (appendix A)

**Reasons for recommendations:** During the period of a four year Council Plan adjustments and refinements may need to be made to respond to changed circumstances and emerging opportunities. In acknowledgement of this an annual review is a helpful way of ensuring that the Plan remains focused on delivery of the organisations overall strategic objectives.

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## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Council Plan is a key corporate document. It sets out the Council's commitments to its residents and businesses and outlines a programme of important strategic objectives and the projects that will deliver these for the District. The Plan draws upon a range of statistical data, as well as the views of key stakeholders, to inform and help shape the policy priorities for the Council.
- 1.2 It was agreed by Council that, although covering a four year period, the Plan would be considered a dynamic document that would evolve over time. As such, an annual review or refresh was agreed. The results of the second such refresh are set out in this report.

## **2 2018 refresh**

- 2.1 Council considered the 2018 refresh in July 2018. At that meeting, the refreshed version was not agreed. 2 specific objections were raised:
- a) Reference to the A27 dual carriageway

b) Reference to the Newhaven port access road

2.2 Both of these references have been removed.

2.3 The rest of the Council Plan refreshed version contains corporate projects and priorities that were adopted in previous years and has been already reviewed by both Cabinet and Scrutiny. A timeline highlighting member consideration of the Council Plan leading up to the 2018 version is below.

### **3 Timeline**

3.1 The 2016-20 Council Plan was adopted by Full Council on 25 February 2016, following a recommendation from Cabinet (meeting 8 February 2016) to do so.

3.2 The Plan underwent its first annual refresh/ revision in 2017.

3.3 This second annual review of the Council includes some minor design changes and updated content to reflect the Council's achievements in 2017 and work in 2018. It has already been the subject of detailed consideration by members:

3.4 The 2018 refreshed version was considered by Scrutiny on 28 June 2018. As per the meeting minutes:

*"Members noted the design changes of the Corporate Plan and its new focus on key content and outcomes.*

**Resolved:**

- 1. That the Scrutiny Committee recommend to the Cabinet that a reference to the South Downs National Park be included;*
- 2. That the Scrutiny Committee noted the progress made in the second year of delivery of the Corporate plan; and*
- 3. That the Scrutiny Committee noted the design changes to the Corporate Plan."*

3.5 Cabinet considered the 2018 refresh on 2 July 2018. As per the meeting minutes:

*"The Scrutiny Committee discussed the plan at its meeting on the 28 June 2018 and made a recommendation to include a reference to the South Downs National Park, which was agreed by the Cabinet.*

**Resolved (Key decision):**

- (1) To note the progress made in the second year of delivery of the Council Plan, set out at appendix A to the report.*
- (2) To approve the design changes to the Council Plan, set out at appendix B to the report.*

**Recommended to Council (Budget and policy framework):**

- (3) To agree the Council Plan contents.*

3.6 Full Council considered the first version of the 2018 refresh on 16 July 2018. That version was not agreed. There were just two issues of concern, as highlighted in para 2.1 above. These two issues have been removed from the version which is before Council for approval today.

#### **4 Financial Appraisal**

4.1 The financial aspects of all projects and actions within the Council Plan are either included within the approved budget for 2018/19 and the Medium Term Finance Strategy, or (in the case of new initiatives which may still be at an early planning stage) will be subject to future reports to, and approval by, Cabinet.

#### **5 Legal implications**

5.1 There are no legal Implications arising from this report.

#### **6 Risk Management implications**

6.1 The risk management implications of individual decisions relating to the projects and initiatives covered in this report will be addressed as part of the planning and delivery of those individual projects.

#### **7 Equality Screening**

7.1 Equality Analyses are being undertaken in relation to the individual projects which make up the Council Plan, and therefore it has not been considered necessary to undertake an overarching analysis of the Plan as a whole.

#### **8 Appendices**

- Appendix A - Refreshed LDC Council Plan

#### **9 Background papers**

The background papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

- Lewes Council Plan:

[https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/\\_resources/assets/inline/full/0/257739.pdf](https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/_resources/assets/inline/full/0/257739.pdf)