

**Agenda Item No:** **Report No:**  
**Report Title:** **Council Plan 2013- 2014**  
**Report To:** **Full Council** **Date:** **8<sup>th</sup> May 2013**  
**Cabinet Member:** **Councillor James Page, Leader of the Council**  
**Ward(s) Affected:** **All**  
**Report By:** **Jenny Rowlands, Chief Executive**  
**Contact Officer(s)-**  
**Name(s):** **Sue Harvey**  
**Post Title(s):** **Corporate Performance Officer**  
**E-mail(s):** **[sue.harvey@lewes.gov.uk](mailto:sue.harvey@lewes.gov.uk)**  
**Tel No(s):** **01273 484156**

---

**Purpose of Report:**

**To seek approval for the draft Council Plan 2013/14 to be finalised in consultation with the Leader of the Council.**

**Officers Recommendation(s): That**

- 1 The latest draft of the Council Plan 2013/14 be noted and that authority be given for the final version to be signed off by the Leader of the Council/Chief Executive.

**Reasons for Recommendations**

- 1 To produce a 'fit for purpose' Council Plan which sets out the Council's priorities and work programme for the coming year and provides the basis for performance monitoring and management during 2013/14.

**Background Information**

1. The Council Plan continues to evolve to remain 'fit for purpose' as a key corporate document which fully reflects the ambition, vision (One District One Council) and strategic direction for the Council as set out in Programme Nexus. The first full year of Programme Nexus was reported and celebrated at Cabinet in November 2012.

**Council Plan 2013/14**

2. The draft Council Plan for 2013/14 continues to reflect the Council's three priority commitments, that of unswerving commitment to customer service, to connect with our workforce and partners to inspire exceptional contribution and to save money and where possible put it back into our residents' and businesses pockets.
3. It reflects the achievements made over the previous year and progress on a variety of activities and performance areas. A detailed end of year performance report for 2012/13 is currently being compiled and will be presented to Cabinet in due course.

Detailed work programmes and performance targets for 2013/14 will be agreed as part of normal service planning processes, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet councillor(s).

4. The draft Plan also sets out the Council's priority projects for the year ahead, many of which form the Council's Nexus Transformation Programme.
5. The draft Council Plan is reported in Word format but, in the same way as last year, will be designed and printed in-house and published on the Council's website, with a small number of hard copies printed for circulation to councillors, town and parish councils and other partner organisations. An opportunity will also be taken this year to encourage feedback on the Council Plan via the website once it has been published.

### **Risk Appraisal**

I have completed a risk assessment in accordance with the Council's risk management strategy. The main risks are:

- failure to communicate the Council's ambitions and priorities and ensure that these drive performance and resource allocation, which may result in criticism from the Council's external auditors;
- failure to demonstrate achievement of outcomes in the community, potentially damaging local accountability;
- failure to respond to the Government's localism and transparency agendas and produce relevant progress and performance information to service users and the wider community.

Mitigation of these risks is achieved through a comprehensive and coherent Council Plan and also through regular monitoring of progress and performance.

### **Financial Appraisal**

- 1 Production and publication of the Council Plan and performance monitoring arrangements are within budget estimates.

### **Equality Screening**

- 2 An equalities impact assessment is not considered necessary for this routine monitoring report.

### **Environmental Implications**

- 3 There are no significant environmental effects as a result of the recommendations in this report.

### **Background Papers**

- 4 None – information taken from 'real time' performance management systems.

**Appendix - Appendix A – Working Draft Council Plan 2013/14**

