Agenda Item No: 12(i)

**Cabinet recommendations for consideration by Council
at the Meeting of the Council on Thursday, 25 February 2016**

Cabinet – 8 February 2016 (non-budget related item)

57   The Council Plan 2016 - 2020

The Cabinet considered Report No 22/16 which related to the draft Council Plan 2016 to 2020, a copy of which was set out at Appendix A thereto.

Following the Council election in May 2015, the Council had an opportunity to refocus on its vision, ambitions and priorities for the District over the next four years.

The Plan was a key corporate document which set out the Council's commitments to its residents and businesses and outlined a programme of important strategic projects and outcomes for the District. It drew upon a range of statistical data, as well as the views of key stakeholders, in order to inform and help shape the policy priorities for the Council.

The Plan aimed to encapsulate the continuing ambitious aspirations of the Council, the draft version of which continued the strong existing commitment to improving services for customers and communities, achieving more by working together with key partners and delivering efficient, customer focussed services. It was set against the challenging financial backdrop which required the Council to make the best possible use of its resources.

The draft Plan had been prepared having regard to the following:

- The Council's existing programme of transformation projects, community initiatives and policy commitments;

- The Residents' Survey 2015 which was conducted during the summer 2015; and

- The financial and policy drivers that were likely to impact the Council in the short to medium term.

It was divided into three sections namely;

- Customers – which focused on improved customer service and how the Council worked to make its communities more resilient, healthy and engaged;

- Place – which focused on growth and prosperity, how the Council delivered sustainable new housing and infrastructure, and how it kept the District clean and green; and

- Value for Money – following the recent Council decision to adopt a strategy for the development of shared services, the section focused on how the Council would deliver its savings, in part by the integration of the staff and services of Lewes and Eastbourne Councils.

Details relating to the consultation and engagement processes that had been undertaken in respect of the draft Plan were set out in paragraphs 13 to 17 of the Report whilst Appendix B thereto provided a list of the key partner organisations which had been invited to give feedback. Paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Report set out details relating to the adoption and delivery of the Plan.

Recommended:

57.1   That, following consideration of: DBSD (to note)

The draft Council Plan for 2016 – 2020, as set out at Appendix A to Report No 22/16;

The feedback from consultation with partner organisations and other stakeholders that commenced on 21 December 2015 and finished on 8 February 2016; and

Any recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Committee's consideration of the Report on 14 January 2016,

a final version of the draft Council Plan be prepared for consideration at the forthcoming Meeting of the Council on 25 February 2016 and that, subsequently, it be adopted.

Reasons for the Decision:

To enable the Council to set out its strategic vision, objectives and priority projects for the next four years and provide a firm basis for forward planning and performance management.

† *Councillors are requested to bring with them to the meeting Report No 22/16 which was circulated with the agenda papers for the meeting of the Cabinet on 8 February 2016. If you require a further copy of the document please contact Trevor Hayward, Committee Officer, on e-mail trevor.hayward@lewes.gov.uk or telephone 01273 471600.*

NB The Council Plan 2016 – 2020 is the subject of a separate Report to this Meeting of the Council. Therefore, please see Report No 31/16 which is attached.