

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	1 June 2022
Subject:	Council Plan (2020-2024) Annual Refresh (Year 3)
Report of:	Head of Corporate Services
Corporate Lead:	Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Leader of the Council
Number of Appendices:	One

Executive Summary:

The Council Plan is a key strategic document which establishes an overarching vision for the borough and sets out, in broad terms, the priorities, objectives and actions that the Council will focus upon to work towards the vision. The current plan (2020-2024) was approved by Council on 28 January 2020. To ensure the plan is a live document, it is reviewed on an annual basis and where appropriate updated. The proposed 2020-2024 (Year 3) plan is attached at Appendix 1.

Given the unprecedented challenge and impact on the Council's services and its residents, communities and business by the Coronavirus pandemic a Corporate Covid-19 Recovery Plan was approved by Executive Committee on 5 August 2020. This plan was developed around the principles, framework and governance arrangements adopted in relation to the 2020 – 2024 Council Plan.

As reported previously, any outstanding actions from the Covid-19 Recovery Plan have now been transitioned back into the Council Plan thereby reverting back to one strategic document. The Council Plan and its actions acknowledge the longer term recovery challenges presented by the pandemic.

Recommendation:

Subject to any amendments from the Executive Committee, the Council Plan refresh is RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL for adoption.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To ensure the plans remain live documents, actions need to be reviewed on an annual basis and refreshed where appropriate.

Resource Implications:

None arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications:

None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management Implications:

If the Council does not have an up-to-date Council Plan it cannot demonstrate that priorities are being achieved.

Performance Management Follow-up:

Delivery of the Council Plan is monitored through a Performance Tracker which is reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis.

Environmental Implications:

None arising directly from this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council Plan is a key strategic document, which establishes an overarching vision for the borough. It sets out, in broad terms, the priorities, objectives and actions that the council will focus upon to work towards the vision.

The current plan (2020-2024) was approved by Council on 28 January 2020. To ensure the plan is a live document, it is reviewed on an annual basis and, where appropriate, updated.

The proposed 2020-2024 (Year 3) plan is attached at Appendix 1.

1.2 The Covid-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the Council's services and its residents, communities and businesses. Reflecting this, a corporate Covid-19 recovery plan was approved by Executive Committee on 5 August 2020. This plan was developed around the principles, framework and governance arrangements adopted in relation to the 2020-2024 Council Plan.

1.3 As reported previously, any outstanding actions from the Covid-19 Recovery Plan have now been transitioned back into the Council Plan thereby reverting to one strategic document. The Council Plan and its actions acknowledge the longer term recovery challenges presented by the pandemic.

2.0 COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2024

2.1 In terms of the plan's overall vision and values, these remain unchanged.

The vision for the borough is *'A place where a good quality of life is open to all'*.

The values continue to reflect the fact that we are a Council, which:

- Puts customers first.
- Is positive about working with others.
- Values its employees.

2.2 The plan re-affirms the Council's six priority themes. The priorities are:

1. Finance and resources.
2. Economic growth.
3. Housing and communities.
4. Customer first.
5. Garden communities.
6. Sustainable environment.

Each of the priorities is supported by a series of key objectives. Underneath each objective are supporting actions to be delivered or progressed during the year.

2.3 The main purpose of the annual refresh is to review the Council Plan actions under each of the priority objectives and establish the status of each one.

As part of this, there may be a range of outcomes, for example:

- An action may have been delivered during the year and therefore can be removed from the plan.
- New actions may have emerged to support the delivery of the priority.
- An action may need to be amended to reflect the changing nature of the action.
- An action may need to be removed as it is no longer relevant or has been deferred.

Examples of these in the Council Plan refresh include:

- *'ensure that the Ubico resource made available as a result of the bulky waste review is redeployed' (under Finance and resources priority theme) has been removed as this action is complete.*
- *'Introduce a shop-front grant scheme through the Tewkesbury High Street Heritage Action Zone' (under Economic Growth) has been amended to 'deliver projects as part of the Tewkesbury High Street Heritage Action Zone, including Shop Front Scheme, Upper Floors Scheme and Traditional Skills' to reflect the wider work streams of the project.*
- *'There are a range of new actions, including 're-commence the regeneration of Tewkesbury Town projects' (under Economic Growth), deliver an empty homes strategy (under Housing and Communities), carry out a review of the licensing service (under Customer First), deploy CCTV cameras in fly tipping hotspots (under Sustainable Environment) etc.*

3.0 COVID-19 CORPORATE RECOVERY PLAN

3.1 The Recovery Plan was developed and approved to demonstrate how the Council responded in the early stages of the pandemic and to provide the direction of travel for the borough's recovery. The plan was developed around the six priority themes within the Council Plan. As outlined in the introduction of this report, actions have been transitioned back into the Council Plan. Importantly, this will not dilute the Council's approach to recovery. There continues to be a thread related to Covid-19 within the Council Plan refresh. There are also actions within the Council Plan, for example through the formulation of strategies such as the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Medium Term Financial Strategy which will recognise and reflect the impact that the pandemic had on the Council, our residents, communities and our businesses. All actions brought forward from the recovery plan are annotated (r).

4.0 MONITORING PROGRESS

4.1 The same and trusted methodology will be used to monitor delivery of the actions. The established performance tracker will be reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis. All individual actions are reported within this document. Supporting the this, is additional Key Performance Information (KPI) data and various financial reporting information. Outcomes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review are then reported to Executive Committee by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Heads of Service and Operational Managers have been pivotal in putting forward new actions.

7.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

7.1 There are a number of key strategies that support delivery of Council Plan priorities. For example; digital strategy, housing and homelessness strategy, economic development and tourism strategy, etc.

8.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

8.1 A wide range of government policies underpin actions within the priority themes.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

9.1 No direct resource implications.

10.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

10.1 The Council Plan seeks to ensure economic, social and environmental sustainability.

11.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

11.1 The Council Plan seeks to ensure value for money and equitable service provision.

12.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

12.1 Council Plan (2021-2024) - approved by Council 28 January 2020.

Covid-19 Corporate Recovery Plan - approved by Executive Committee 5 August 2020.

Background Papers: None.

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Appendices: 1 – Draft Council Plan (2020-2024) Year 3 Refresh.