

## **Item: 6**

**Policy and Resources Committee: 20 February 2018.**

**The Council Plan 2018 to 2023.**

**Joint Report by Chief Executive and Executive Director of Corporate Services.**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

To present the draft Council Plan for the period 2018 to 2023.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is invited to note:

#### **2.1.**

That engagement with Orkney's residents during the Local Government Election campaign in April and May 2017 has informed development of the draft Council Plan.

#### **2.2.**

That the Council Plan reflects national priorities set by both the Scottish and UK Governments and the core services which the Council provides day to day, as well as taking account of new duties arising from recent legislation and improvements recommended by audit and inspection teams.

#### **2.3.**

That the Council Plan reflects the shared mission of the Orkney Partnership which maintains Orkney's Community Plan, incorporating Orkney's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

#### **2.4.**

The proposal that, in setting its strategic priorities, the Council shares the updated values of the Orkney Partnership within its new Council Plan.

#### **2.5.**

The draft Council Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, which proposes Strategic Priorities themed under five headings as follows:

- Connected Communities.
- Caring Communities.
- Thriving Communities.
- Entrepreneurial Communities.
- Quality of Life.

## **2.6.**

That each strategic priority theme will have a number of priority actions listed to indicate the work which will be undertaken to achieve the target outcome.

**It is recommended:**

## **2.7.**

That the draft Council Plan for the period 2018 to 2023, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved.

## **2.8.**

That the Chief Executive should submit, to the next meeting of the Committee, a delivery plan listing the key actions and projects that will deliver the target outcome under each strategic priority theme within the Council Plan.

## **3. Policy Aspects**

This report relates to governance and procedural issues and therefore does not relate specifically to progressing the Council's six key priorities.

## **4. Introduction**

### **4.1.**

At its Special General Meeting held on 12 March 2013, the Council resolved that the Corporate Strategic Plan, Our Plan 2013 to 2018, be adopted.

### **4.2.**

At its special meeting held on 16 December 2015, when considering a mid-term review of the Council Plan, the Policy and Resources Committee recommended that, once amended, the Delivery Plan be approved for publication, to guide the work of services responsible for delivery of the Council's ambitions over the remaining two year period of the current Council Plan.

## **5. Background**

### **5.1.**

Following the Local Government Elections in May 2017, elected members brought together and collated all of the issues that were raised by Orkney residents during their election campaigns. This information has been distilled into the priorities contained within the new draft Council plan. In parallel to this work the Council has been challenged with setting a budget which meets the financial challenges faced by the Council as well as facilitating the ambition and improvements set by the new priorities.

## **5.2.**

The engagement with residents demonstrated that they want their community to be well connected, both digitally and in terms of transport, and to be thriving and entrepreneurial, but also to be compassionate and caring. In addition, there were a number of issues highlighted to improve the quality of life in the community which help attract and retain people in Orkney.

## **5.3.**

As well as the public's strategic priorities, the plan reflects national priorities set by both the Scottish and UK Governments and the core services which the Council provides day to day. It also takes account of new duties arising from recent legislation, and improvements recommended by audit and inspection teams.

# **6. The Council's Mission and Values**

## **6.1.**

The Council's mission statement is 'Working together for a better Orkney'. This mission statement, along with the Council's values, is shared with the Orkney Partnership which maintains Orkney's Community Plan, incorporating Orkney's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. It is proposed within the new Plan that the Council's mission statement remains unchanged.

## **6.2.**

The Council's values as described in the Council Plan 2013 to 2018 are as follows:

- Promoting survival.
- Promoting sustainability.
- Promoting equality.
- Working together.
- Working with communities.
- Working to provide better services.

## **6.3.**

The Orkney Partnership has recently reviewed its values. It is proposed that, in setting its strategic priorities, the Council shares the updated values within its new Council Plan as listed below.

- Resilience.
- Enterprise.
- Equality.
- Fairness.
- Innovation.
- Leadership.
- Sustainability.

## **7. The Council's Strategic Priorities**

### **7.1.**

The Council's priorities as described in the Council Plan 2013 to 2018 are as follows:

- Care and support for those who need it.
- Promote successful, thriving communities.
- Housing to meet the needs of Orkney's people.
- A Low Carbon Orkney – Renewables, Energy and Opportunity.
- Orkney's Economic Development.
- Orkney's Transport Networks.
- What we need to do.

### **7.2.**

The draft Council Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, proposes Strategic Priorities and Outcomes themed under five headings and listed below.

- Connected Communities.
  - Orkney's communities enjoy modern and well-integrated transport services and the best national standards of digital connectivity, accessible and affordable to all.
- Caring Communities.
  - People in Orkney enjoy long, healthy and independent lives, with care and support available to those who need it.
- Thriving Communities.
  - A robust service infrastructure which supports all our communities and meets the requirements of 21<sup>st</sup> century life.
- Entrepreneurial Communities.
  - A vibrant economy which supports local businesses and stimulates investment in all our communities.
- Quality of Life.
  - Orkney has a flourishing population, with people of all ages choosing to stay, relocate or return here for a better quality of life.

### **7.3.**

Under each strategic priority theme a number of priority actions are listed to indicate the work which will be undertaken to achieve the target outcome.

## **7.4.**

Accordingly, it is proposed that a delivery plan be developed which will list the key actions and projects to deliver the target outcome under each strategic priority theme. The delivery plan will indicate which actions and projects are wholly in the control of the Council and those which will rely on external factors. In addition, the delivery plan will contain some actions which are carried over from the previous Council Plan and the Council's response to the recommendations of the Accounts Commission contained in the Best Value Assurance Report published in December 2017.

## **7.5.**

The Council Plan has been developed in line with the strategic objectives of the Orkney Community Plan. The relationship between the Community Plan, the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the Council Plan priorities are illustrated on page 16 of the draft Council Plan attached as Appendix 1.

## **8. Equalities Impact**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.

## **9. Financial Implications**

### **9.1.**

There are no immediate financial implications arising from the report recommendations.

### **9.2.**

Some elements of the Council Plan will require reprioritisation of existing budgets while others will require external funding or resources existing staff resource will be required in order to ensure delivery of most of the targets and priorities.

### **9.3.**

The Capital Project Appraisal process will, through the scoring of proposed capital projects, give greater priority to projects that demonstrate a strategic fit of the proposed projects with the Council's Strategic Plan.

### **9.4.**

The Delivery Plan being developed to deliver the priorities will include financial information to indicate the proposed funding route for each action.

## **10. Legal Aspects**

### **10.1.**

Strategic planning helps the Council to secure best value.

## **10.2.**

There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

## **11. Contact Officers**

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## **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1: Draft Council Plan 2018 to 2023.

Appendix 2: Equality Impact Assessment.