

COMMITTEE: COUNCIL

DATE: 21ST APRIL 2009

SUBJECT: CORPORATE PLAN

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CONTACT OFFICER: GEOFF BOCUTT 546073

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	✓	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	✓	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING		OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: NONE

PURPOSE

1. This report, together with the draft Corporate Plan 2008-14, is submitted to the Council so that the Council's plan of action can be approved and adopted as part of the Council's policy framework.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. The Council is recommended to:
 - (i) Adopt the draft Corporate Plan attached at Appendix A to this report as the Council's Corporate Plan.
 - (ii) Authorise the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Executive Leader, to make minor amendments to the Plan, prior to publication.

BACKGROUND

3. The Council's Corporate plan was extended by an 'addendum' that was prepared to cover the year 2007-08 when the Corporate Assessment was carried out by the Audit Commission and other inspectorates. Since then the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the Local Area Agreement (LAA) have been agreed by the Luton Forum, Luton's Local Strategic Partnership, and approved by the Council and, in the case of the LAA, by the Government. These documents set out the long term vision and goals for public services in Luton and the shorter term priorities and targets for improving local public services and the life experiences, opportunities and outcomes for local people. Therefore the Council's new corporate plan has been designed to set out the role that the Council will play over this next six years (to cover two LAAs up to the first revision of the SCS) to deliver the LAA improvement targets in order to make progress towards the vision for 2026.

REPORT

4. Enclosed with the agenda is the printer's draft of the new Corporate Plan. The plan is introduced by the Chief Executive and sets out the Council's ambitions for Luton in the context of the Luton Forum's vision for what Luton should be like in 2026. The plan says what the Council will do to ensure that it is both efficient and financially sound and then follows the format of the SCS and summarises the actions the Council will take in support of each of the high level outcomes under the four themes of the SCS. The principles underpinning our approach to performance management and the management of resources are explained and the key events for the six years up to 2014 are mapped against an indicative time-line. Finally there is a pen picture of what achieving the vision for 2026 would mean for people then living in Luton. The plan is designed to cover six years but it is anticipated that the negotiation and agreement of the LAA for the second period of three years (2011-14) could make it necessary to review and revise the plan.
5. The content of the draft plan was considered by the Executive at their meeting on 30th March when they decided "that the draft Corporate Plan be commended to the Council for adoption as the Council's Corporate Plan."

PROPOSAL/OPTION

6. The Council is asked to consider the recommendation from the Executive and the draft Corporate Plan and to approve it for adoption as part of the policy framework.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no legal implications to this report as agreed with Brenda Vale in Legal Services on 27 February 2009.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8. Equality, inclusion and cohesion are fundamental principles underpinning the plan. New initiatives and actions will be equality impact assessed before being implemented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The ambitions and high level outcomes set out in the plan will guide financial as well as service planning and prioritisation over the medium term. Agreed with the Head of Corporate Finance, 25 February 2009.

APPENDIX

10. Appendix A – Draft Corporate Plan 2008-14
(Copied with the enclosures for the Council meeting)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

Our Vision for Luton in 2026 - Luton's Sustainable Community Strategy
Luton's Local Area Agreement 2008-11
Executive report reference: EX/3/8/09 and decision EX/57/09