

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL
 CABINET - 17 FEBRUARY 2022
 COUNCIL - 3 MARCH 2022
 2022/23 TO 2024/25 COUNCIL PLAN
 REPORT OF DAVID SIDAWAY - CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 LEAD CABINET MEMBER - CLLR SHAUN DAVIES - LEADER OF THE
 COUNCIL**

PART A) - SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

1.1. This report presents a refreshed Council Plan to drive delivery of the Council's vision to ***“protect care and invest to create a better borough”***.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet approves the refreshed Council Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	<i>Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?</i>	
	Yes	<i>Yes – the Plan describes what the organisation will deliver against each of the Council's priorities.</i>
	<i>Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?</i>	
	Yes	<i>The impact will be borough-wide</i>
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	<i>The Plan sets out a medium term strategy for the Council.</i>	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Report, also on this agenda, sets out the resources available for the Council to deliver the priorities highlighted in the Council Plan. The Council continues to demonstrate strong financial management, delivering £133m savings since 2009/10 and effectively managing spend within budgets set. The MTFS includes funding for a range of investments, both revenue and capital, to <i>Protect, Care and Invest in the Borough</i> which are detailed in the Council Plan. The funding outlook for the council is

		uncertain due to the pending reform of the Local Government Finance System and the MTFS will be updated accordingly, when further information becomes available, with a continued focus on the vision and key priorities outlined in the Council Plan. PH 26.01.22
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	The Council Plan sets the strategic priorities of the organisation and forms part of the Council's policy framework. It also impacts upon the Council's budget framework. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, full Council will need to endorse the plan. Proposals that are brought forward to achieve the strategic priorities contained in the Council Plan will remain subject to appropriate approval as required by the Council's Constitution. AL 26/01/2022
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	Borough-wide impact

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

4.1. In July 2019 the council adopted a new a new vision for the organisation to ***“protect care and invest to create a better borough”***. The refreshed Council Plan sets out what the council will focus on delivering over the next three years to drive delivery of this vision (see Appendix One). The Medium Term Financial Strategy sets out the resources to deliver this Plan.

4.2. Much of the past two years has seen the council responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, demonstrating our commitment to residents to be “on your side”. The council is extremely proud of how the borough has come together in response to this challenge to protect the most vulnerable.

4.3. The council is determined to get back to a more normal way of life with renewed energy. Being “on your side” is about the day to day business of the council as well as responding to emergencies. To drive this, we have invested £16m to “create a better borough” into:

- community actions teams to keep local spaces cleaner and greener
- top quality events and activities

- our wonderful parks
 - our high streets so that they are, once again, great places to meet, shop and do business
 - our fight against climate change
 - borough wide community safety projects
 - enhancing and protecting our precious green and open spaces
- 4.4. The council has been able to make this investment because of strong and effective financial management since 2011. In addition, the base rate of council tax for the next two years will be frozen in response to the cost of living pressures many residents are facing. The council is truly on the side of residents.
- 4.5. The Council Plan identifies four priorities to deliver the council's vision. These reflect our ambition and aspirations for the borough and the outcomes we want to achieve:
- ***Every child, young person and adult lives well in their community***
 - ***Everyone benefits from a thriving economy***
 - ***All neighbourhoods are a great place to live***
 - ***Our natural environment is protected, and the Council has a leading role in addressing the climate emergency***
- 4.6. Through these priorities, the council will focus on addressing the inequalities that exist within the borough. There are communities within the borough that face significant challenges with some neighbourhoods that have nationally significant levels of social disadvantage. The impact of this is that there are inequalities between neighbourhoods in life expectancy, health, employment and skills, quality of housing and experience of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 4.7. These differences have been amplified by Covid-19 which has had significant impact on the local economy and employment levels, particularly in the retail sector. The number of people unemployed in the borough has risen too.
- 4.8. To deliver better outcomes for everyone and address these inequalities, we need to, further to recovery, maintain and sustain the progress we have made growing and strengthening our economy. In doing so ensuring additional focus is applied to those issues which negatively impact on the potential of some of our communities to tackle social disadvantage and enhancing the resilience and prosperity of our communities.
- 4.9. As a co-operative council, it is recognised that the people in our communities are best placed to understand the issues that they face, the priorities for their area and to lead the development of solutions to these issues, but it is also recognised that, at times, they may require support from the council and other partners.

4.10. It will be the core focus of the council to drive delivery of these priorities. This will only be achieved by the Council using its resources efficiently and effectively, and by working in partnership, with communities, partners and stakeholders. To enable the council to drive and steer its approach to how it continues to develop its workforce, ICT systems and data, use its financial resources appropriately and to ensure good governance and decision-making informed by the views of local residents, the Plan also includes a priority for the organisation:

- ***A community-focussed, innovative council providing efficient, effective and quality services***

Next Steps

4.11. To drive delivery of the Council Plan the following work will be undertaken:

- Each director's service strategy will be reviewed. These strategies set out what each service area will deliver over the next 3 years and the key outcomes they expect to achieve.
- The corporate performance framework will be refreshed. Through this, the council will better understand the progress that is being made towards delivering the outcomes contained in each of the service strategies.

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2024/25

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