



Executive Committee

All Wards

11 March 2009

THE CORPORATE PLAN 2009 - 2012

(Report of the Head of Strategy and Partnerships)

1. Summary of Proposals

The Committee is asked to consider the adoption of the Corporate Plan 2009 – 2012 which has been developed around the Vision and Priorities agreed by the Council on 8 December 2008.

The new priorities which will take effect from 1 April 2009 are:

- Enterprising Community
- Safe
- Clean and Green
- A Well Managed Organisation.

The Corporate Plan was not refreshed for 2008/09 and the Council is currently working to the Corporate Plan 2007/10 which is based on the previous Vision and Priorities.

It is critical to demonstrate that the Council has a clear vision of what it wants to achieve and that it has set priorities that will enable it to achieve that vision. The Corporate Plan is effectively the business plan for the Council on which Service Plans are based and a key document for Members. It is also used by the Council's external auditor as a key reference document against which to judge its performance.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND that

- 1) **The Corporate Plan 2009 – 2012 attached to this report at Appendix 1 be adopted**

3. Financial, Legal, Policy, Risk and Sustainability / Environmental Implications

Financial

- 3.1 The Council's priorities detailed within the Corporate Plan set the broad framework for allocating the authority's finances in subsequent financial years.

Legal

- 3.2 There are no legal requirements for the Council to have a Corporate Plan. However, there is an expectation from the Audit Commission and best practice also dictates that any organisation should have a robust business plan.

Policy

- 3.3 The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's immediate and long term aims and objectives and how their achievement are to be measured.

Risk

- 3.4 Failure to adopt the Corporate Plan would leave the Council without clear direction for the use of resources.

Sustainability / Environmental

- 3.5 The Council's priorities upon which the Corporate Plan is based are cross cutting and will tackle issues regarding sustainability and the environment.

Report

4. Background

- 4.1 The Council is currently working to the Corporate Plan 2007/10. The Corporate Plan was not refreshed for 2008/09 due to the change of control of the Council at the May 2008 elections and a subsequent review of the priorities of the Council.
- 4.2 On 8 December, 2008 the Council adopted the Vision of "An enterprising community which is safe, clean and green" together with new Priorities:
- a) Enterprising Community
 - b) Safe
 - c) Clean and Green
 - d) A Well Managed Organisation.
- 4.3 The Corporate Plan 2009/12 attached to this report at Appendix 1 has been developed around the new Vision and Priorities.

5. Key Issues

- 5.1 The Corporate Plan is effectively the business plan for the Council on which Service Plans are based and a key document for Members. It is also used by the Council's external auditor as a key reference document against which to judge its performance.

- 5.2 It is critical to demonstrate that the Council has a clear vision of what it wants to achieve and that it has set priorities that will enable it to achieve that vision. The Corporate Plan 2008/12 sets out how the vision and priorities will be achieved over a three year period.
- 5.3 The Corporate Plan demonstrates the links between the Council's priority outcomes and key actions to the key themes of the Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement (LAA).
- 5.4 The new Corporate Plan has changed in relation to its format. This is in line with best practice and recommendations contained within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This Act removed the requirement on local authorities to produce a Best Value Performance Plan but advised that local authorities should produce business documents (Corporate Plan) that was more relevant to our customers.
- 5.6 The new Corporate Plan will be professionally formatted once adopted by the Council. The current document is indicative of how the final version will appear.

6. **Other Implications**

- Asset Management - None specific.
- Community Safety - Throughout consultation with local residents crime and disorder issues have been highlighted as areas for concern.
- Human Resources - These will be identified in the development of service plans.
- Social Exclusion - To develop an enterprising community focuses on educational attainment, high skill levels and tackling health inequalities. Fostering economic development also provides increased job opportunities and improved pay levels. These will directly contribute to tackling social exclusion

7. **Lessons Learnt**

- 7.1 The Corporate Plan is closely aligned with the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The timescales for the production of the

Corporate Plan have been extremely tight between the setting of the Council's budget and the production of the Plan.

8. **Background Papers**

The Corporate Plan 2007/10.
Service Plans 2009-2011.

9. **Consultation**

Relevant Officers and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

10. **Author of Report**

The author of this report is Angela Heighway – Head of Strategy & Partnerships who can be contacted on extension 3122 or angela.heighway@redditchbc.gov.uk for more information.

11. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Corporate Plan 2009 - 2012