



COUNCIL: 22 JULY 2020

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources

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SUBJECT: COUNCIL PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the Council Plan Annual Report 2019/20.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

- 2.1 That the Council Plan Annual Report 2019/20 (attached at Appendix 1) be approved.
- 2.2 That authority is given to the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder to make any minor final amendments to the document, prior to publication.
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3.0 BACKGROUND AND CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In April 2019, the Council formally adopted a Council Plan 2019/20-2020/21 with a vision, set of values and priorities together with key projects. The purpose was to deliver the Council's priorities, communicate its direction with the public and stakeholders including staff, and to support transparency and accountability.
- 3.2 The Council Plan Annual Report attached as Appendix 1 provides a summary of the progress against implementing the plan during 2019/20. Many of the actions have been the subject of detailed individual reports to committees as well as a six-month progress report being provided through a Members Update.
- 3.3 As evidenced in the report, overall the Council has made good progress in achieving the priorities of the plan. The annual report also contains the annual

outturn against the Council's Corporate Performance Suite. The suite highlights performance in key areas of Council service and is aligned to the priorities and actions of the plan.

- 3.4 The outturn shows that despite the challenges around resources the Council continued to maintain a good level of performance against targets in most areas. Much of this was achieved ahead of COVID-19. It should be noted however that mobilisation and implementation of the Council's emergency response to COVID-19 resulted in much revised working arrangements and service operations which did impact in the final weeks of the year for certain performance and planned activities.
- 3.5 A Cabinet strategy session reviewed the existing Council Plan, vision, values and priorities in light of what has been achieved, the operating environment and Council's new operating model. It was recognised that there had been significant progress towards achieving the existing Council Plan and a revision to the Plan rather than a refresh was appropriate. A new draft Council Plan has therefore been developed. The draft Plan will undergo stakeholder consultation and the consultation feedback used to refine the final Council Plan to be brought back to Full Council. The current Council Plan will remain in place until the intended adoption of the new Council Plan in October 2020.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The priorities and key projects set out in the Council Plan should contribute to the sustainability of services and the borough as a whole.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council Plan Annual Report 2019/20 appended to this report demonstrates the Council's pursuit of its objectives, within the resources available, and includes a statement on its financial performance.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 The development and monitoring of a strategic plan and associated processes mitigates the risks that the Council will not deliver its aspirations within a balanced budget. It is essential to the effective management of the Council that sufficient time and consideration is given to the council planning process. Having a clear plan allows attention and resources to be effectively focused on achieving the Council's priorities and strong and effective performance management arrangements are in place to support this.
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Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Council Plan Annual Report 2019/20