

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 April 2023

Title: Pre-Scrutiny Briefing: The Development of the Corporate Plan 2023-27	
Report of the Director of Strategy	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: No
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Accountable Director: Alex Powell, Director of Strategy	
Accountable Strategic Leadership Directors: Fiona Taylor, Acting Chief Executive and Alex Powell, Director of Strategy	
Summary <p>Whilst there is no specific statutory duty to produce a Corporate Plan, it is a necessary element of good governance and it defines the Council's medium-term priorities and the outcomes measures through which progress can be measured. The Corporate Plan is part of the Council's "Golden Thread" and translates the long-term vision of the Borough Manifesto into medium-term priorities and programmes of activity. The Corporate Plan is part of the Barking and Dagenham Council's agreed Policy Framework. As such, the Corporate Plan is going to Cabinet on 18 April 2023 and to Assembly on 17 May 2023.</p> <p>This Report is intended to outline the development of the Corporate Plan. This includes the internal and external challenges facing the organisation and the context in which it is operating. It defines a set of seven Priorities that the Council should seek to focus on and a set of Principles which it wants staff to approach work.</p>	
Recommendation(s) <p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the Priorities and Principles that will underpin the Corporate Plan. After adoption of the Corporate Plan by Assembly, the Overview and Scrutiny may wish to utilise information within the Corporate Plan and the associated Outcomes Framework as source material for future Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme items.</p>	
Reason(s) <p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested an overview of the development of the Corporate Plan be given in the lead up to approval by Cabinet and adoption by Assembly.</p>	

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1. Whilst there is no specific statutory duty to produce a Corporate Plan, it is a necessary element of good governance and it defines the Council's medium term priorities and the outcomes measures through which progress can be measured. Councils are required to work to achieve continuous improvement and best value and a Corporate Plan helps to focus efforts towards agreed priorities.
- 1.2. The Corporate Plan is part of the Barking and Dagenham Council's agreed Policy Framework. The Assembly requests Cabinet to prepare a draft Corporate Plan which Assembly then approves. The Corporate Plan is going to Cabinet on 18 April 2023 and to Assembly on 17 May 2023.
- 1.3. The Corporate Plan is one part of the Council's "Golden Thread" which links the widest objectives of the area in the longer term, all the way through to objectives for individual officers in the shorter term. The Borough Manifesto launched in 2017 and, co-produced with statutory partners, VCSE partners, businesses and residents, is at the top of the Golden Thread and provides a 20-year vision for the area. The Corporate Plan translates this long-term vision of the Borough Manifesto into medium-term priorities and programmes of activity. The Corporate Plan both informs and is informed by the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). Service Plans sit below the Corporate Plan and translate those medium-term priorities into shorter-term, one-year, service-based operational plans ensuring those strategic aims are translated to delivery in a cohesive and structured way. Performance, Development and Feedback conversations are the performance setting and review conversations with individual officers which sit below the Service Plans in the Golden Thread.
- 1.4. The PowerPoint presentation (Appendix 1) that supports this agenda item is intended to outline the development of the Corporate Plan. This includes the internal and external challenges that the organisation is facing, the journey that the organisation has been on over the last few years and the context in which it is operating. These include the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, pressures such as the funding challenges facing all local authorities, and areas that the Council has the opportunity to further progress in terms of organisational development. It also includes the Council's objective for what it wants the Corporate Plan to achieve and the audiences to which it speaks. It defines a set of seven Priorities that the Council should seek to focus on and a set of Principles which are the way in which its staff should approach work, which sit alongside the Council's "Deliver, Respond, Inspire, Value and Engage" (DRIVE) values.

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

The Barking & Dagenham Corporate Plan 2020 to 2022:

www.lbbd.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-07/Corporate%20Plan%20Report%20-%20App%202.pdf

List of appendices:

- Appendix 1: The Development of the Corporate Plan 2023-27 PowerPoint Presentation