

REPORT FOR DECISION

DECISION OF:	Executive Council
DATE:	4 April 2012 16 May 2012
SUBJECT:	Bury Council Corporate Plan 2012-15
REPORT FROM:	Leader of the Council Executive Member for HR and Performance
CONTACT OFFICER:	Dionne Brandon, Head of Policy and Improvement
TYPE OF DECISION:	COUNCIL (NON KEY DECISION)
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	<p>The Bury Council Corporate Plan, whilst no longer a statutory document, is still a very important planning and delivery document. It is a key document within the council's Policy Framework, reflecting on the past year's performance, setting out the council's priorities for the next three years and providing a solid foundation for departmental plans and service delivery.</p> <p>Following the Plan for Change and Programme of Savings consultations in 2011 we have identified key priorities for the future. Corporate performance indicators linked to each of the Plan for Change outcomes will enable us to monitor progress on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Monitoring of the plan will continue with regular reporting of the results to Executive and Internal Scrutiny Committee.</p>
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>Executive is recommended to endorse the Bury Council Corporate Plan to Council for approval.</p> <p>Council is recommended to approve the Bury Council Corporate Plan.</p> <p>Alternative Option: There is the option not to approve the Bury Council Corporate Plan.</p>

IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes The proposals accord with the Policy Framework. The Bury Council Corporate Plan is a key document requiring approval of Council.
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	The Bury Council Corporate Plan continues to outline the financial implications of our priorities.
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	<p>The Bury Council Corporate Plan is a key component of our priority-led budgeting process. As a result funding is already in place for the majority of projects – through external support, past internal Priority Investment Reserve allocations, realignment of existing budgets and through the Capital Programme.</p> <p>It is important to recognise that the achievement of the plan’s targets does not always rely on funding; existing staff time is also a key resource.</p> <p>The impact of public sector spending cuts, in terms of general and specific grants, means that it will be more important than ever to focus resources on the things that are most important to us.</p> <p>A minority of future schemes are unfunded and attaining our ambition in these areas is dependent on attracting strategic partners or alternative income streams. The absence of agreed sources of funding may increase the risk of targets not being achieved.</p>
Equality/Diversity implications:	Yes An Equality Analysis has been undertaken and it is concluded that the Plan is largely positive by aiming to reduce poverty and inequality.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes JH The Bury Council Corporate Plan is an important part of the Council’s Policy Framework and any changes to this have to be approved by Council.
Wards Affected:	All
Scrutiny Interest:	Internal Scrutiny

TRACKING/PROCESS**DIRECTOR: Deputy Chief Executive**

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
	7/3/2012		
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	
		16/5/2012	

1.0 BACKGROUND

The council publishes an updated Bury Council Corporate Plan each year. Previously known as the Bury Plan, this document is an important part of the council's policy framework informing future policy and service development as well as advising partners and the community of the council's plans.

2.0 ISSUES

The Bury Council Corporate Plan provides a snapshot of the council. It reports our achievements and assesses the lessons from the past year but most of the space has to be devoted to looking forward and setting out what the council is trying to achieve in the future.

The main features of the plan are:

- A strong outcome focus – The plan sets out the key outcomes for the council and an overview of the projects in place to deliver these outcomes.
- Clear links between different planning hierarchies. The Bury Council Corporate Plan provides direction for departmental plans and targets;
- Better monitoring. Robust targets will be put in place to enable progress to be measured and these will be integrated into Executive Member work plans in 2012-13 to maintain the focus on the outcomes that matter to the local people. The baselines and targets will be available following the completion of the year-end performance report in June 2012.

3.0 CONCLUSION

This plan sets out to build on past successes by identifying what needs to happen to improve outcomes for the community whilst recognising the challenges presented by limited resources and the potential impact on capacity.

Robust monitoring of performance, resources and risks will continue. This puts the council in a strong position to progress the issues that are important to local residents and increase value for money from the resources available to us.

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