

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 27 March 2019
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Report title	Our Council Plan 2019-2024	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Roger Lawrence Leader of the Council	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Tim Johnson, Managing Director	
Originating service	Managing Director	
Accountable employee	Mark Taylor Tel Email	Deputy Managing Director 01902 556609 mark.taylor@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Strategic Executive Board Leader's Meeting Cabinet Council	26 February 2019 11 March 2019 27 March 2019 3 April 2019

Recommendation for decision:

The Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. Approves the Council's Our Council Plan 2019-2024.

Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Note that the Council Plan priorities emerged following extensive consultation with over 3,000 people and that the draft plan was available for public consultation to ensure it is reflective of our City's needs.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The City of Wolverhampton Council has developed a Council Plan for 2019-2024, to replace the existing Corporate Plan 2016-2019. The plan will build on the Council's transformation journey with a focus on delivering improved outcomes for the City.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The current Corporate Plan 2016-2019 focused on improving service delivery in line with the Council's core objectives of a: Stronger Economy, Stronger Communities and Confident, Capable Council.
- 2.2 We have made many great strides to improve our services and outcomes for local people whilst at the same time managing continued financial pressures. Since 2010, we have reduced our spend by £220 million as a result of funding reductions from Government, whilst balancing increased demand on our services. These challenges will continue. Moving forwards we must continue to review how we operate, to ensure we are sustainable financially and still able to provide those services our local people most need. This will be guided by our core principles:

- Focus on core business
- Promoting independence and wellbeing
- Deliver inclusive economic growth
- Balancing risk
- Commercial approach

- 2.3 Extensive engagement with a wide array of stakeholders has shaped and informed our Council Plan 2019-2024 priorities. Over the past six months, we have engaged with around 3,000 people including residents, young people, the voluntary and community sector and other partners, employees, Councillors and businesses across the City. The engagement process was designed so that as many views and thoughts could be heard from a wide and diverse group of people. Many of these sessions were conducted as 'world cafes' which involved splitting people into small groups and asking them targeted questions around what their priorities are for the City, what the strengths of Wolverhampton are, and how they would like the City to look in the future. Online consultation also took place to further expand the reach to gain more stakeholders views.
- 2.4 This item was considered as pre-decision scrutiny on 6 February 2019 by Confident, Capable Council Scrutiny Panel and their comments have been incorporated where appropriate.

3.0 Our Council Plan

- 3.1 Our Council Plan 2019-2024 sets out how we will deliver our contribution to Vision 2030 and how we will work with our partners and communities to be a city of opportunity. The plan includes six strategic priorities which have been developed through engagement with the people of our City to ascertain their key priorities and the outcomes they want to

see, to enable us to work together to deliver what matters most to local people. The six priorities come together to deliver the overall Council Plan outcome of 'Wulfrunians will live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives', by benefiting from the priorities identified below:

Priorities	Strategic Executive Board Lead
1. Children and young people get the best possible start in life	Emma Bennett Director of Children's Services
2. Well skilled people working in an inclusive economy	Meredith Teasdale Director of Education
3. More good jobs and investment in our city	Richard Lawrence Director of Regeneration
4. Better homes for all	Kate Martin Service Director of Housing
5. Strong, resilient and healthy communities	John Denley Director of Public Health
6. A vibrant, green city we can all be proud of	Ross Cook Service Director of City Environment

- 3.2 We will continue to build and develop our relationships with our communities, the voluntary and community sector and other partners across the City. It is vital that we work together to maximise resources and ensure that local people have the opportunity to reach their potential and support their community. We can only do this by working collaboratively with local people and partners to understand their priorities and embed those outcomes in all that we do. This supports Wolverhampton for Everyone's partnership approach, developed by the voluntary and community sector and key partners in the city, including the Council.
- 3.3 Wolverhampton for Everyone is a way of working in partnership, which supports local people to unlock potential within their communities and create positive change within the city. Its core belief is that 'our city will be more vibrant and inclusive if it is powered by people who live and work here, working together inclusively'.
- 3.4 The delivery of the Council Plan 2019-2024 will also be supported by the new Strategic Economic Plan 2019-2024. Wolverhampton's Strategic Economic Plan aims to support economic growth locally contributing to the delivery of the West Midlands Industrial Strategy. The priorities included in the Council Plan and Strategic Economic Plan are aligned and support the delivery of Vision 2030.
- 3.5 The C3 Programme will be taken forward as the Our Council Programme. The Our Council Programme will enable our organisation to deliver the outcomes in the new Council Plan by continuing to drive through efficiencies and align resources to priority outcomes. The programme will need to focus on activity that supports the Council's medium-term financial strategy and continues to evolve the organisation. The new workstreams within Our Council Programme focus on:

Our Council Programme	Leadership Lead
Our Assets	Mark Taylor Deputy Managing Director
Our Data	Charlotte Johns Head of Local Economy
Our Money	Claire Nye Director of Finance
Our People	Meredith Teasdale Director of Education
Our Technology	Mark Taylor Deputy Managing Director

3.6 During the internal consultation sessions with employees and Councillors, we took the opportunity to review the existing PRIDE values, which determine how we behave and support the delivery of the Council priorities. Based on the feedback provided, the revised PRIDE values are as follows:

- P – Put people first
- R – Raise the city’s profile and reputation
- I – Inspire trust and confidence
- D – Deliver together
- E – Empower people to innovate

4.0 Evaluation of alternative options

4.1 The draft Council Plan 2019-2024 was open for consultation with residents, employees, Councillors, businesses, the voluntary and community sector and other partners to ensure their voices have been heard and to solidify their buy-in and commitment to working together to achieve these joint aims. The consultation process on the draft plan closed on 20 February 2019.

4.2 It is vital that we continue to engage with our residents, the voluntary and community sector and other partners, employees, Councillors and businesses going forward to check and challenge our priorities and performance, this will take place as part of an ongoing City Conversation. Performance will also be monitored through the Corporate Performance Framework, which will be reported to Cabinet (Performance Management Panel) on a quarterly basis.

5.0 Reasons for decision

5.1 The current iteration of the City of Wolverhampton Council’s Corporate Plan concludes in 2019. The Council Plan 2019-2024 was co-designed, to ensure it is reflective of what our City needs most, and that local people are a key partner in both its creation and delivery.

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 The Council has been faced with significant funding reductions in recent years, coupled with increasing demand on services, and it is envisaged that these challenges will continue. The Council Plan sets out how the Council will operate moving forward, to ensure financial sustainability and the ability to provide those services local people most need. The Council will continue to build and develop relationships with partners and communities across the City, as it is vital that we work together to maximise resources. This can only be achieved by working collaboratively with local people and partners to understand their priorities and embed those outcomes in all that we do.
- 6.2 All costs associated with consultation and preparation of the Council Plan will be accommodated within existing budgets.

[MH/13022019/T]

7.0 Legal implications

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

[TS/14012019/R]

8.0 Equalities implications

- 8.1 The Council Plan 2019-2024 is relevant to all residents of Wolverhampton. Consideration was given to the engagement and consultation process to ensure accessibility and inclusivity. Wolverhampton Equality and Diversity Partnership was invited to feedback its key priorities during the first phase of consultation and comment on the draft plan.

9.0 Environmental implications

- 9.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report. All Council projects/ activities will consider environmental implications as a key priority throughout the planning and delivery process.

10.0 Human resources implications

- 10.1 There are no direct human resource implications arising from this report. The Our People Council Programme and any HR policies and procedures will address human resource implications.

11.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 11.1 Corporate Landlord implications will be addressed through the delivery of the Our Assets workstream within the Our Council Programme.

12.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications

- 12.1 The Council Plan activities over the next five years aim to deliver the long-term outcome: 'Wulfrunians will live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives', delivered through the six Council Plan priorities:

- Children and young people get the best possible start in life
- Well skilled people working in an inclusive economy
- More good jobs and investment in our city
- Better homes for all
- Strong, resilient and healthy communities
- A vibrant, green city we can all be proud of

13.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Our Council Plan 2019-2024