

Report sponsor: Carole Mills, Chief Executive
Report author: Heather Greenan, Director of
Policy, Insight and Communications

Council Plan 2019 – 2023

Purpose

- 1.1 The Council Plan (the Plan) is the Council's highest level strategic planning document. It sets out a vision of how we want the Council and the City to be, and how we will get there. It provides the framework of overarching priorities for planning and delivery at all levels of the organisation, and informs decision making and resource prioritisation through our Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The Plan drives what we focus on and is an important element in raising the profile of the City, and defining the role of the Council as a leader and convenor of partnerships to achieve the vision.

Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To approve the Council Plan 2019 – 2023.
- 2.2 To note that the Delivery Plan for 2019 – 2020, which flows from the Council Plan, will be presented to a future meeting of Cabinet.
- 2.3 To award delegated authority to the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive to keep the Plan up to date.

Reason(s)

- 3.1 To provide a clear vision for the City and the Council, and to give clarity to stakeholders on the Council's priorities and future vision for the City.
- 3.2 The forthcoming Delivery Plan flows from the Council Plan, and sets out the more detailed actions and milestones to enable its delivery.

Supporting information

- 4.1 In 2018/19 the Council undertook an 'organisational diagnostic' (a review) to better understand the needs and aspirations of Derby and the changing role of the Council and its partners in driving the city forward. This evidence-based review identified relevant strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats across four domains (city, communities, council and colleagues) and informed the development of a new vision and priorities, which will replace the Council Plan for 2016 – 2019.
- 4.2 The draft Council Plan for 2019 – 2023 is at **Appendix 1**. It is summarised overleaf and referred to as our Council Plan on a Page in that appendix.



- 4.3 Our vision has been reframed into '***Derby – a caring and successful city at the heart of the Midlands, proud of its heritage and ambitious for the future***'. There are wider discussions taking place with partners and community leaders about the longer term vision for the city as a whole. The vision is underpinned by three overarching themes to guide the Council's work.
- 4.5 The first two themes also link to delivering the Derby Partnership goal of *closing the gap*, with particular focus on inclusive growth, social mobility and making sure everyone has the best opportunity to maximise their potential.
- 4.7 All these activities are underpinned by our new core values which, put simply, reinforce that the Council, its councillors and officers, are here for Derby.
- 4.8 Previous external feedback was that the current council plan had too many priorities, so this Plan provides a simpler framework for delivery and decision making.
- 4.9 The MTFP, approved by Council in March 2019, is continually updated and has a four year time horizon. The Council Plan should align with that, so that resources can be deployed to achieve the vision. Without this alignment, progress would be impeded, and financial decisions would be isolated from strategic planning.
- 4.10 The Plan includes only some of the highlights of what we are doing to achieve our aims. Further detail, including timescales and those accountable for delivery will be set out in the 2019/20 Council Delivery Plan, which will be reported to a future meeting. Progress against the Delivery Plan will be reported every six months.

- 4.11 One aspect of the public sector equality duty is that the Council must advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and this is implicit throughout the Plan. The aim is that everyone in Derby should benefit from the city's big ambitions and enjoy health and happiness. Where there are barriers that impact, for example, on people from different ethnic groups or those with a disability, then we must make plans to address this. The Delivery Plan and subsequent documents will set out how we will progress this, and Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken for individual projects and service decisions.
- 4.12 Publishing a Council Plan and regularly reporting progress supports positive cultural change within the Council, and increases public accountability for the delivery of the City's priorities. It is therefore an important element in transparency and building the trust of stakeholders and the public in the Council. Subject to Cabinet approval, the Plan will be finalised and published both as a document and on our website.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 Colleagues were engaged in the creation of the values; they were asked for suggestions and to rate the values that were most important to them. The Team Derby Improvement Plan (within the "A Council focussed on the things that matter" theme) was strongly informed by the organisational diagnostic done in late 2018.
- 5.2 Public and stakeholder engagement will primarily take place around the renewal of the Derby Partnership and Derby Plan, rather than the Council Plan itself.

Other options

- 6.1 As there is no duty to publish a Council Plan, it's possible not to approve the Plan. This is not recommended, as clarity around the vision and priorities will allow all stakeholders to move forward with confidence and make further plans for delivery.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 The continual development of the MTFP will be informed by the strategic priorities of the Council Plan.

Legal implications

- 8.1 The Council Plan is a non-statutory document, so there are no constraints on content or format.

Other significant implications

- 9.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	-	
Finance	Toni Nash – Head of Finance	30 May 2019
Service Director(s)	Heather Greenan – Director of Policy, Insight and Communications	23 May 2019
Report sponsor	Carole Mills – CEO	31 May 2019
Other(s)	Ann Webster – Equality and Diversity Lead	30 May 2019

Background papers:

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Council Plan