



REPORT OF:	THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
TO:	COUNCIL FORUM
DATE:	6th OCTOBER 2022

SUBJECT CORPORATE PLAN REFRESH

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update members on the development of the corporate plan refresh, to agree the six missions and to note the draft structure of the plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council Forum:

- i. Agrees the six missions which the Council will focus on over the next four years
- ii. Notes the draft structure of the corporate plan

3. BACKGROUND

At Policy Council in December 2021, members agreed to refresh the corporate plan. This is a key document that sets out the Council's core priorities and ambitions over the next four years.

Following extensive engagement, including a residents' survey, officer and member engagement and bespoke sessions with the public, with partners and with young people, we have identified six missions which the Council will focus on over the next four years.

4. OUR SIX MISSIONS

The missions reflect the fact that we are a pro-growth Council that considers prosperity a necessary condition of a successful, healthy and thriving borough. The aim is to continue to build a strong economy that works for everyone. The Council will work in partnership with investors, businesses and educational providers to continue

to lay the foundations to achieve that aim. We have the potential to be one of the most important economic centres in the North.

The missions also reflect the fact that the climate change crisis is one of the most fundamental challenges we all face. As the engagement has shown, it is also a clear priority for our residents. We are already delivering our climate change crisis plan and will continue to do so over the next four years.

The corporate missions reflect our young population, our clear aim that we want every child to achieve their full potential and to ensure that Blackburn with Darwen is a great place to grow up in.

Build healthier, happier and safer communities encompasses our work in making the borough cleaner and greener, fostering community pride, working with partners such as the police to make our communities safer, and safeguarding and protecting our borough's most vulnerable residents. Reducing health inequalities and improving health outcomes are key outcomes of this mission achieved by activity such as working closely with our NHS and community partners to integrate health and care services and interventions such as promoting self-care and independence, tackling social isolation and utilising our publicly owned leisure services to promote and support good health and wellbeing.

Tackling the budget challenge and continuing to be a forward thinking, innovative Council support the delivery of all our missions.

All these missions will be underpinned by key activity and progress will be measured against key outcomes.

We also recognise that we cannot achieve many of these missions alone, especially given the tough financial outlook for local authorities, so partnership working, which has always been one of this Council's strengths, will continue to be vital. However the Council is well placed to lead the borough, addressing the challenges that exist here while at the same time helping to unleash our true potential.

While the exact wording of the missions may be tweaked between this report and the final publication, they are:

- **A more prosperous borough so no-one is left behind**
- **A better present and a brighter future for our children and young people**
- **Deliver our climate change crisis plan**
- **Tackle the budget challenge**
- **Build healthier, happier and safer communities**
- **A forward thinking, innovative Council**

5. DRAFT STRUCTURE OF THE CORPORATE PLAN

The corporate plan will be a short, sharp, high level document which is underpinned by a range of policies, strategies and plans including: the growth strategy, the local

plan, the medium term financial strategy, health and wellbeing strategy, our cultural strategy, our skills strategy, early help strategy, organisational development strategy and our climate change action plan.

The draft structure is:

1. Introduction by the leader and chief executive
2. Where we are now
3. Our missions
4. Our key outcomes
5. Proud to BwD (Our staff)
6. How we work/key partnerships
7. Measuring our performance
8. Promoting Blackburn with Darwen
9. Our key strategies, policy papers and evidence base

7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional policy implications from this update report.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Corporate Plan will set out the Council's corporate objectives for the next four years. Delivery of the Corporate Plan objectives will have to be considered in the context of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and ultimately the annual budget setting process.

It is inevitable that the Council will have to be innovative in its approach, optimising value for money from the use of its resources and working in partnership with a range of other organisations to achieve the outcomes that will be agreed in the Corporate Plan.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. However, the Corporate Plan provides the necessary framework and context upon which the council can direct its decision-making and significantly contributes to robust corporate governance arrangements.

The approval of the Corporate Plan and Council's objectives and priorities are a function of Full Council. Any legal issues arising from implementing the commitments in them will need to be reported and considered in accordance with relevant legislation and the Constitution.

10. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional resource implications. Activity will be managed within existing resources.

11. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment is not required.

12. CONSULTATIONS

Further engagement will continue throughout the next two months.

Chief Officer:	Denise Park, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Ben Greenwood
Date:	October 6 2022
Background Papers:	