

Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	Cabinet	Date:	15 September 2021
Subject:	Draft Council Plan 2021-2024 – for Public Consultation		
Report Of:	Leader of the Council		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	1. Draft Council Plan 2021-2024		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report presents the draft Council Plan 2021-2024 and seeks approval to commence the required consultation process. The report also outlines the timetable for development of the final Plan, including the identification of key projects and actions.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that:

- (1) the draft Council Plan 2021-2024 be approved for public consultation
- (2) the timetable for the development and finalisation of the Council Plan 2021-2024 be noted.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

3.1 The Council Plan sets out Gloucester City Council's strategic direction over the next three years and how it intends to deliver its vision through a set of priorities and promises that are underpinned by its core values. The new Council Plan succeeds the previous Council Plan and Council Plan Extension, which covered the periods of 2017-2020 and 2020-2021 respectively.

3.2 Following the elections in 2021 the Cabinet, working alongside officers, undertook to review existing workstreams and define a set of new objectives.

From this, a strategic vision has been developed that will communicate what the council will be doing and how it will direct its resources over the next three years.

3.3 The overarching vision is to work with partners and residents in *Building a greener, fairer, better Gloucester*.

3.4 The priorities that set out how this will be achieved are:

1. Building greener, healthier, and more inclusive communities
2. Building a sustainable city of diverse culture and opportunity
3. Building a socially responsible and empowering council

3.5 The vision, priorities and promises, guided by the Administration's key objectives, are driven by a strong sense of environmental responsibility and a desire to tackle inequality, and the draft Plan seeks to place these two overarching themes at the heart of every strategic objective. The priorities broadly offer a people, a place and a council focus and the promises have been drafted to reflect the Administration's plans and aspirations for the city, while also ensuring that the council is equipped to continue delivering quality services and recover from the effects of the Covid19 pandemic. The draft Plan highlights the important roles of many stakeholders in achieving the council's vision, with a clear focus on working with others to achieve our ambitions.

3.6 In accordance with the council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, the next stage in the development of the new Council Plan is a six week period of public consultation. The purpose of the consultation is to obtain views on the overall direction of the draft Plan, the main themes and priority areas. As part of this process, key partners will be invited to respond to the consultation and the Overview and Scrutiny will have the opportunity to scrutinise the draft Plan and provide comments that will be considered alongside the consultation responses.

3.7 A detailed set of key actions and projects will be drawn up to provide a performance framework for the Plan that identifies how progress will be measured using milestones and available data. This will be added to the Plan prior to final approval by Council in January 2022.

3.8 Once approved, the key projects, actions and measures will inform Service Plans and staff Personal Performance Plans, ensuring that capacity and resources are directed to support the delivery of the Council Plan, while maintaining a culture of performance management and accountability.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

4.1 The council's commitment to obtaining social value from its activities is highlighted within the draft Plan and is key to supporting the overarching themes of environmental responsibility and tackling inequalities.

5.0 Environmental Implications

5.1 Sustainability and tackling climate change make up one of the two main themes that underpin the priorities in the draft Council Plan.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

6.1 The development of the draft Council Plan has been an iterative process with alternative options considered throughout.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

7.1 A new Council Plan is required to succeed the current plan and the report sets out the draft Plan and key steps to approving the final version, including the public consultation and the development of a performance management framework.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

8.1 The timetable for approval of the final Council Plan is as follows:

Date	Work Involved
15 September 2021	Cabinet – To approve the Draft Council Plan for consultation
23 September - 4 November 2021	Public consultation
5 October 2021	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – To consider the Draft Council Plan as part of the consultation process (agreed with Chair of O&S)
12 January 2022	Cabinet – To recommend the final Council Plan to Council for approval, incorporating public and O&S comments
27 January 2022	Council -To approve the of final Council Plan

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 There are no specific financial implications resulting from this report; however, the council's Money Plan reflects the Administration's priorities and the council's agreed plans and strategies that have informed the development of the Council Plan.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report)

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 The Council Plan is a non-statutory element of the council's Policy Framework and, as such, must be approved by the full Council. This report is the first step towards approving the final Council Plan.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation of this report)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1 Risks and opportunities will be considered as part of the council's strategic and service risk registers ensuring that risk management is embedded in the council's approach to managing its performance, capturing all associated risks and proposals for their management and mitigation.

12.0 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and Safeguarding:

12.1 Equalities and inclusion is the second of the two themes running through each of the priority areas in the draft Council Plan and, in accordance with the EIA process, impact will be assessed on a project-by-project basis.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

13.1 Community safety remains a priority for the council and there will be actions and projects that specifically target this.

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

14.1 As outlined in 3.8 above, Council Plan actions and measures will inform staff Personal Performance Plans, ensuring that all staff understand how their role contributes to the delivery of the council's strategic vision.

Background Documents: None