

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 03 August 2020

Portfolio:	Policy and Resources
Subject:	COVID-19 Recovery Plan (Objectives and Framework)
Report of:	Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priorities:	All Corporate Priorities Apply

Purpose:

To seek approval for the Council's COVID-19 Recovery Plan Objectives and the Recovery Plan Framework.

Executive summary:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the Council and the local community. Many Borough residents and businesses will have been detrimentally affected in different ways.

This report includes a set of Recovery Plan Objectives for the Council to follow. These objectives will continue to underpin the Council's approach to the pandemic. They are grouped in three key phases: Response; Adjustment; and Recovery.

In addition to the objectives a 'Recovery Framework' has also been established. This identifies seven key areas: - Workforce; Democratic; Service; Public Spaces; Community; Economy; and Financial Recovery.

It is intended that a bespoke Recovery Plan will be formulated for each key area. These plans are likely to consider the impacts from COVID-19 and identify actions that address or mitigate these impacts.

Looking at 'recovery' now helps to ensure that the approach, decisions and actions taken will positively influence the longer-term outcomes for the Council and the wider community.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Executive agrees the 'Recovery Objectives' and 'Recovery Framework' for COVID-19.

Reason:

To provide a clear structure and direction for the Council's recovery to the COVID-19 emergency.

Cost of proposals:

There are no costs associated with setting up the Recovery Objectives and Framework. There will, however, be costs associated with each individual recovery plan.

Background papers: None

Reference papers: None

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Executive Briefing Paper

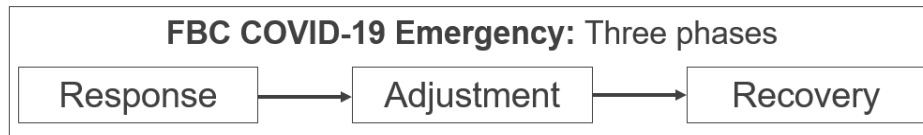
Date:	03 August 2020
Subject:	COVID-19 Recovery Plan (Objectives and Framework)
Briefing by:	Chief Executive Officer
Portfolio:	Policy and Resources

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the objectives that sit behind the Council's COVID-19 Recovery Plan. It also sets out a framework to demonstrate how the Council will consider key individual areas of recovery.
2. The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the Council and our community. Immediate response efforts were required to maintain key Council services and to rapidly adapt to new requirements which helped to support residents and businesses in the Borough.
3. Some Council services continue to respond to the needs of our community whilst many other services, along with some of the Borough's business and community activities, are beginning to make steps toward recovery.
4. Unlike other emergencies, there might be the need to revisit elements of our 'response' should there be a second wave of infections or should lockdown measures be reintroduced.
5. The Chief Executive's Management Team has regularly met throughout the pandemic in order to manage the Council's response. In the latter part of May 2020, the focus of these meetings began to move to 'recovery'.
6. In order to guide the on-going recovery process, overarching objectives have been identified. A framework has also been devised to focus on individual key areas of recovery.

KEY PHASES

7. The impact of COVID-19 can be viewed through three key stages, recognising that it is not a simple 'response' and 'recovery' process. At present, the Council is working through an 'adjustment' phase which includes elements of both response and recovery. An adjustment phase also recognises that we may need to revisit elements of 'response' should there be a second wave of infections or should lockdown measures be reintroduced.



8. We have now reached a point where there will need to be an increased focus on how we will rebuild, restore and rehabilitate both the Council (internally) and the wider community (externally) in the medium to long term.
9. Looking at the 'recovery' phase now ensures that actions taken in the short term will positively influence the longer-term outcomes for the Council and the wider community.

RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

10. The objectives listed below were those used to inform our reactive approach during the initial 'response' phase. Officers are currently being guided by the objectives set out for the 'adjustment' phase.

Response Phase Objectives

- Maintain essential/critical services and decision making.
- Protect and support employees.
- Support our residents, particularly those who are vulnerable.
- Support our business community.
- Stabilise the Council's operations during lockdown.
- Re-establish Council's operations wherever possible and practical

Adjustment Phase Objectives

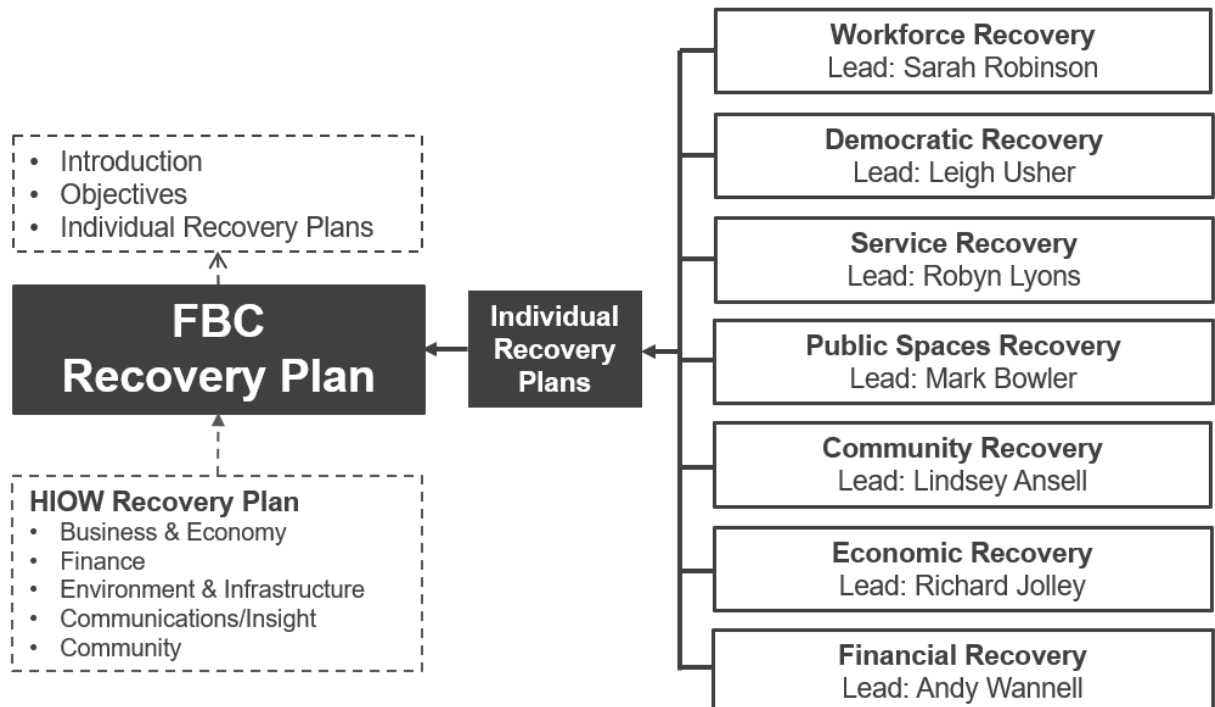
- Prepare and plan for the repopulation of employees to Council buildings.
- Prepare and plan for customer visits/appointments to the Civic Offices.
- Consider appropriate PPE where relevant, plan accordingly.
- Continue improvement to working from home functionality.
- Continue improvement to workplace functionality.
- Undertake necessary measures to allow democratic decisions to continue.
- Fully understand and plan for peaks in FBC work as we move into 'Recovery'.
- Further develop and refine the Council's Recovery Plan.

Recovery Phase Objectives

- Seek to restore social, economic and political wellbeing.
- Seek to restore access to public spaces.
- Assist the Borough's communities and businesses to recover.
- Appropriately recognise and address the trauma caused the pandemic.
- Appropriately recognise the positives that arose from the pandemic.
- Develop a clear action plan on how the Council will address the financial impacts of COVID-19.
- Establish environmental positives arising from the pandemic and what can be carried forward.
- Learn from the incident; revisit Business Continuity and Emergency Plans.
- Review the Council's Corporate Strategy to take account of the post COVID-19 position (if required).
- Keep the objectives and actions of the COVID-19 Recovery Plan under review in order to adapt to any further COVID-19 related issues that arise.

RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

- To further enable the recovery work to progress in a constructive way a 'Recovery Framework' has been formulated. This will ensure an understanding can be developed of the impacts (both internal and external) from the pandemic on particular areas. It will also allow actions to be identified that are intended to mitigate or address these impacts. A senior officer (as identified below) has been leading on each of these key areas.
- The Recovery Plan Framework is illustrated below: -



- An individual Recovery Plan will be developed for all the key areas. Most will be presented to the Executive in the short term. The Workforce Recovery plan has already been published internally in the form of a six-part safety guidance document. Service recovery specifically relates to the documents used to prioritise services during the pandemic. A full list of the decisions taken on service prioritisation, using emergency powers, will be presented to a future meeting of the Full Council.

CONCLUSION

- The Recovery Objectives identified in paragraph 10 of this report sit at the heart of the Council's recovery framework.
- Over the coming months, individual Recovery Plans will be produced that focus on key areas of recovery (e.g. Economic, Financial, Community etc.). These will look at the impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and consider actions or measures to address or mitigate the damage caused.
- The intention of the Council's COVID-19 Recovery Plan is to ensure that the Council, our residents, and the businesses in the Borough are best placed to positively move forward from this unprecedented event.

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Robyn Lyons (Ext 4305)