

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Council

26 October 2023

Subject: **Annual Review of Corporate Strategy 2017-2023**

Report of: **Assistant Director (Democracy)**

SUMMARY

The Council's Corporate Strategy 2017 to 2023 sets out the Council's vision and priorities for the Borough. The Council's performance management framework requires an annual review of the strategy, to confirm future priorities and update the wording where necessary. This is the final review of the current Strategy.

The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel considered the review of the Strategy at the 18 September 2023 meeting and supported the proposed changes to the Strategy.

The Executive considered the outcome of the review on 9 October 2023 and agreed the recommended amendments to the Corporate Strategy document.

The updated Corporate Strategy 2017-2023 is now presented for adoption by the Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) notes the results of the annual review of the Corporate Strategy; and
- (b) approves the updates to the Corporate Strategy 2017-2023.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Council's performance management framework requires the Executive to undertake an annual review of the corporate vision and priorities. The purpose is to confirm future priorities and update the wording where necessary.
2. The 2017-2023 Corporate Strategy was adopted by the Council on 14 December 2017. This is the final review of the current Corporate Strategy, with the adoption of a new Corporate Strategy for 2023-2029 due in October 2023.
3. The proposed changes to the wording need to be approved by the Council because the Corporate Strategy falls within the Council's policy framework under the Constitution.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE STRATEGY 2017-2023

4. The Corporate Strategy sets out the Council's priorities for 2017-2023 and shows how we have planned to ensure that Fareham remains a prosperous, safe, and attractive place to live and work.
5. The Strategy sets out six Corporate Priorities. Progress on each priority in the year 2022 - 2023 is set out below:

Providing Housing Choices

- The Council's Local Plan, which plans for the provision of new homes, and employment space across the Borough up to 2037 has now been adopted.
- The Council continued to deliver affordable rent housing, with the opening of affordable housing for older people at Station Road in Portchester.
- We supported the development of a shared ownership development at Capella Close in Hill Head.

Protect and Enhance the Environment

- This year, the Council opened the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Park at Daedalus. The 40-acre park features a network of accessible paths and cycle routes, dog exercise area and various habitats. Around 21,000 trees have been planted in the area.
- A trial of the use of biofuel (HVO) in our garden waste collection vehicles and smaller diesel vehicles was successfully completed this year.

Strong, Safe, Inclusive and Healthy Communities

- 'Fareham in Bloom' has been bringing our community together for over 25 years. The competition ran virtually again in 2022, with hundreds of entries across six categories.
- The delivery of a new Garden Village at Welborne took a further step forward with the formal submission of the Strategic Design Code and Streets Manual this year. A Strategic Outline Business Case for a proposed railway station has been

commissioned.

Maintain and Extend Prosperity

- The Council has continued to support local businesses with a series of projects, including the ongoing Live Love Local campaign. We also launched the Fareham Start-Up Launchpad programme in partnership with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership and held the first Fareham Business Expo.
- All four business units at Faraday Business Park are now occupied.
- Planning permission to replace Osborn Road multi-storey car park with a surface car park has been granted.

Leisure Opportunities for Health and Fun

- Work to remodel Ferneham Hall into Fareham Live is now well underway, with demolition work beginning on site in September 2022.
- The Council continues with its work to enhance our play areas with a range of inclusive equipment. This year, communication boards were installed at Kenwood Road, Kites Croft Close and Blackbrook Park.

A Dynamic, Prudent and Progressive Council

- We have continued to ensure that our residents have the opportunity to comment on the things that matter to them, with summer Community Action Team (CAT) meetings taking place across the Borough. An additional meeting and exhibition took place at Daedalus relating to the consultation on the installation of Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL) at Solent Airport.
- The Council has conducted public consultations throughout the year, including those on the Local Plan, Play Areas, the Osborn Road Car Park, Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and Ward Boundaries.

EXTERNAL IMPACTS

6. The Council supported our residents with the rising Cost of Living through the provision of information and signposting for support with travel costs, household bills, housing and benefits, and community pantries.
7. The community support offer from the Council was updated to ensure that the many charities and voluntary organisations that offer help and support to our residents are appropriately signposted.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CORPORATE STRATEGY DOCUMENT

8. The Corporate Strategy has remained on track throughout its six-year lifespan. It is proposed that the Council considers the results of the annual review and approves the minor changes to the current Corporate Strategy document.
9. This will be the final version of the 2017-2023 Corporate Strategy with the adoption of the

2023-2029 Corporate Strategy and its six revised Corporate Priorities planned for October 2023, subject to agreement.

10. The revised Corporate Strategy is attached as Appendix A. Pages with proposed amendments have been marked with an asterisk in the top right-hand corner.

POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL

11. The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel considered the report on the annual review of the Corporate Strategy on 18 September 2023.
12. The Panel recommended that the proposed changes be approved by the Executive when it considered the item at its meeting on 9 October 2023.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

13. The Executive considered the report on the annual review of the Corporate Strategy on 9 October 2023 and agreed the amendments to the strategy document.
14. The Executive recommended the Annual Review of the Corporate Strategy to Council for approval, with the report now presented for adoption by the Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

15. Any cost implications of amending any of the Council's priorities would need to be calculated and reflected in the Council's medium-term financial strategy.

CONCLUSION

16. This report is a key stage in the Council's performance management framework. The Council is invited to consider the results of the annual review and approve the updated Corporate Strategy 2017-2023.

Appendices: Appendix A – Corporate Strategy 2017-2023

Background Papers: None

Reference Papers: None

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