

NON-EXEMPT

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

5 February 2020

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL POLICY FRAMEWORK

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

FOR DECISION

Author: Head of Legal Services

1.0 Purpose of the paper

- 1.1 To approve the attached paper and Corporate Strategy for presentation at full council

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Agree the report and supporting documents at Appendix 1
- 2.2 Recommend the adoption of the Corporate Strategy to Council on the 26 February 2020

3.0 Executive summary

- 3.1 The Corporate Strategy is the document which captures the essence of the Havant Borough Council proposals for delivery of services. This document forms a key part of the core policy framework and is approved by Council. This policy framework sets out the ambitions and approach of the Council to the delivery of its functions to the residents of the area. The document is designed to guide the approach of the Council to local issues for the next 5 years.
- 3.2 The policy framework sets the parameters which empowers the Cabinet (Executive) to deliver those ambitions. The strategy document is the top level and is designed to recognise and provide a route to deliver the changes.

3.3 Cabinet must consider and recommend to full council the adoption of a corporate strategy.

3.4 This policy document provides the back bone upon which the strategies for the delivery of each service rests. Cabinet can only operate within the policy framework and if a new priority arises that falls outside of the framework. It will require consideration at Council. The business plans and ancillary strategies for each service area support the delivery of the corporate strategy and are hugely important and fall to cabinet to decide.

4.0 Additional budgetary implications

4.1 The Corporate Strategy makes no budgetary commitments, but it informs the budgetary framework and the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5.0 Background and corporate strategy and directorate business plan(s)

5.1 This document will replace the existing corporate strategy and will form the basis of the consultation.

6.0 Options and reasons for recommending relevant option

Option 1:

Do not recommend the adoption of a new approach and remain with the current Corporate Strategy

Option 2:

Recommend the adoption of a new strategic document whilst acknowledging the need to engage in further consultation and development.

Option 2 is the officer recommended option.

7.0 Equality Impact Assessment

7.1 No Equality issues have been identified in the drafting of this document

8.0 Resource implications

7.1 Financial implications: None

- 7.2 Human Resource implications: None
- 7.3 Information Governance implications: None
- 7.4 Other resource implications: The Strategy does not commit resources in itself but provides the framework for future decisions.

9.0 Legal implications

- 9.1 This approach is designed to facilitate a more modern and flexible approach. A clear strategic document that is fully up to date, comprehensive and includes all key elements of the objectives will give a high degree of 'future proofing' and clarity on decision making forum. This is designed to be simpler for Members and Officers with much clearer Council objectives which allow Cabinet and Scrutiny a high degree of certainty to establish the extent of the policy framework.

10.0 Significant risks

- 10.1 The do-nothing option means the corporate strategy becomes more and more dated and less relevant. The decision making then reverts more and more to full council in the absence of a policy framework bearing in mind the implication of Appendix 2 of the attached draft report.
- 10.2 This is not the final or definitive document and the wider review and engagement is essential to move matters forward.

11.0 Consultation

- 11.1 This is a recommendation from Cabinet. The policy framework document may be described as a living document and this review may be seen as a start point. It is proposed the initial recommendations of cabinet are approved at full council and this forms the basis of a wider engagement with the public and business in the borough.

12.0 Communication

- 12.1 The Corporate Strategy will be republished on our website and 2020 will be used for further refinement and consultation. The initial document is not the definitive strategy but becomes the first stage of a living document that is subject to annual review.

Appendix 1

Council report and corporate strategy

Agreed and Signed off by:

Monitoring Officer:

S151 Officer:

Portfolio Holder:

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