

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 FEBRUARY 2010

CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK: MEDIUM TERM OBJECTIVES & ANNUAL AIMS

1. Purpose of the Report

The 'Transformation Strategy to 2014' now being developed will aim to implement a 'one Council' vision under which all of the Council's resources and people will work together in a creative and imaginative effort to achieve the Council's agreed priorities.

Four strategic themes underpin this strategy -

- Business Transformation,
- Transforming Procurement,
- Maximising Income and
- Value for Money.

This report presents the draft medium term objectives (2010/13) and annual aims (2010/11) for Environment and Transport linked to the 'Transformation Strategy to 2014'.

Links have also been made to the relevant themes from Bexley's Sustainable Community Strategy –

Developing a strong, sustainable and cohesive community through -

- Building Safer and Stronger Communities
- Developing Services for Children & Young People
- Developing healthier communities for adults
- Promoting economic development and the environment

These details will form the core of the Corporate Plan (2010/13) and Annual Plan (2010/11). It is expected that Directorates will discuss the full set of objectives and annual aims with their respective Cabinet Members prior to review and publication of the full documents in March 2010.

2. Background

In 2007, the Council undertook a major review of its Corporate Planning Framework - the process by which we translate our longer term vision set out in Bexley's Sustainable Community Strategy into medium term objectives for the next three years and detailed annual aims for the forthcoming year. A diagram summarising the framework is set out in Appendix A.

The process for 2010/11 is now well underway and this report provides Overview and Scrutiny Members with an update on progress. The latest draft of the Council's medium term objectives and annual aims for Environment and Transport, linked to the 'Transformation Strategy to 2014' and themes from the Sustainable Community Strategy, are attached in Appendix B. While a significant change programme will be required to deliver the Transformation Strategy, this approach demonstrates current planned activities against these themes.

3. The Corporate Plan

The Corporate Plan is the Council's medium term corporate planning document, setting out three-year objectives up to 2013. The structure and format of the document for 2010/13 will be very similar to the 2009 version. It will include -

- Reference to key geographic and demographic facts & figures on the London Borough of Bexley. Similar to the 2009 document, there will be a link to the detailed information which will be maintained on the Bexley Information Observatory - (<http://www.bexley.gov.uk/informationobservatory/index.html>);
- Key facts and figures on the political and management structure of the Council;
- Our longer term strategic priorities as set out in 'Bexley Together', the borough's Sustainable Community Strategy;
- A description of London Borough of Bexley's Corporate Planning Framework and our vision for the future, including our mission statement, priorities and core values; and
- Details around managing our finances, including predicted spending and policies and procedures for managing our human resources over the next three years.

A number of gaps in defining medium term objectives do still remain. This is largely due to the need to further address some of the outcomes from the discussions at the Cabinet Member / Management Board Strategic Planning Event held in October 2009. Overview and Scrutiny Members are asked to consider the latest draft of the medium term objectives, noting that discussions are ongoing with officers to ensure any remaining gaps are completed over the next few weeks.

4. The Annual Plan

The Annual Plan is the Council's summary one-year action plan for 2010/11. This document sets out the Council's more detailed aims for the year and is presented in two sections.

Section One sets out the Council's cross-cutting aims for the year which link directly into the 'Transformation Strategy to 2014' - Business Transformation, Transforming Procurement, Maximising Income and Value for Money.

Section Two of the document is presented by individual Cabinet Portfolio theme and sets out for each Cabinet Member -

- An introduction to their portfolio;
- Core responsibilities and aims for the year;
- Key plans and strategies supported by the portfolio;
- Key performance indicators monitored by the portfolio; and
- The Directorates that support service delivery of the portfolio area.

Overview and Scrutiny Members are asked to review the latest draft of the set of annual aims and note the links which have been made to the 'Transformation Strategy to 2014' and themes from the Sustainable Community Strategy, as set out in Appendix B. Members are asked to note that where gaps still remain, these will be finalised with service areas in the next few weeks.

It is expected that Directorates will discuss the full list of annual aims linked to portfolios (Section Two of the Annual Plan) with their respective Cabinet Members prior to review of the full documents at Council on 3rd March.

5. Next Steps – Reporting and Publication of documents

Noting that any outstanding information will be completed over the next few weeks, Overview and Scrutiny Members are asked to consider the latest set of medium term objectives and annual aims and are invited to submit any comments on the draft medium term objectives and annual aims for 2010/11 at the meeting or alternatively by contacting the relevant Cabinet member or Director for the Cabinet portfolio. Cabinet Members will then discuss the medium term objectives and aims at the Public Cabinet meeting on 22nd February prior to discussion at Council on 3rd March. Where possible, feedback received from Overview and Scrutiny Members will be addressed before papers are despatched to Public Cabinet. However, given the tight schedule of meetings, this will not always be possible.

Full copies of the Corporate Plan and Annual Plan will be presented to Members at Council on 3rd March. However, hard copies of these documents will be placed in the Members' area at the Civic Offices from **17th February** with a feedback sheet for comments and suggestions. Feedback can also be sent direct to Taryn Eves, Corporate Policy and Improvement Team (taryn.eves@bexley.gov.uk, ext. 2039 or DDI 020 8294 6039). All comments received will be included in the final versions presented to Council on 3rd March. To ensure required amendments are incorporated for Council on 3rd March, Members are asked to provide feedback by **19th February** at the latest.

Council will be asked to grant delegated responsibility to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to agree any further amendments to the objectives, aims and full documents before final publication at the end of March.

6. Other plans and strategies

In addition to the Corporate Plan (2010/13) and Annual Plan (2010/11), work is underway to produce Directorate Service Plans for 2010/13 which will also be published at the end of March. Directorate Service Plans are the service delivery vehicles for the Council. In addition to background information on the service area, each plan will set out how each Directorate will contribute and deliver the Council's overall objectives and annual aims set out in the Corporate Plan and Annual Plan, and how progress/success will be measured.

A number of guidance documents and toolkits are also available which support the Corporate Planning Framework. These include the Data Quality Toolkit, Performance Management Toolkit, and Consultation & Community Engagement Strategy/ Action Plan.

Directorate Service Plans for 2010/13 and updated guidance documents will be published alongside the Corporate Plan 2010/13 and Annual Plan 2010/11 at the end of March.

Bexley's Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Bexley Together' was published in June 2008 and a revised Action Plan, linked to the strategy was agreed in September 2009 setting out how we intend to deliver the overall strategic objectives set out in the strategy. Progress is measured through the borough's Local Area Agreement 2008/11. The overall vision in 'Bexley Together' and measures in the Local Area Agreement are reflected throughout the Council's own medium term objectives and annual aims discussed in this report.

7. Conclusion and Recommendation

The latest draft of the medium term objectives and annual aims for Environment and Transport are attached in Appendix B for review and comments. Feedback and comments will be addressed and a revised version will return to Public Cabinet on 22nd February (following consideration by Overview & Scrutiny). Full documents will be considered at Council on 3rd March with final publication at the end of March.

8. Summary of Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with the Corporate Plan 2010/13 and Annual Plan 2010/11. The financial implications of individual proposals and actions will be considered as appropriate and will be set out in the final versions of the full documents.

9. Summary of Legal Implications

There are no legal implications associated with the Corporate Plan 2010/13 and Annual Plan 2010/11. The legal implications of individual proposals and actions will be considered as appropriate and will be set out in the final versions of the full documents.

10. Summary of Other Implications

There are no other implications associated with the Corporate Plan 2010/13 and Annual Plan 2010/11. The other implications of individual proposals and actions will be considered as appropriate and will be set out in the final versions of the full documents.

Local Government Act 1972 - section 100(d)

List of Background Documents

Background documents for the Corporate Plan 2010/13 and Annual Plan 2010/11 will be listed in the relevant sections of the plans.

Contact Officer: Taryn Eves, Corporate Projects Officer, ext. 2039

Reporting to: Fola Ikpehai, Head of Corporate Policy and Improvement, ext: 2041

Appendices

Appendix A – Diagram summarising Bexley’s Corporate Planning Framework

Appendix B – Medium Term Objectives and Annual Aims for Environment and Transport, linked to the Transformation Strategy to 2014 - Business Transformation, Transforming Procurement, Maximising Income and Value for Money and themes in Bexley’s Sustainable Community Strategy

BEXLEY'S CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Bexley's Corporate Planning Framework

