

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 26 th September 2017
Report Subject	Council (Improvement) Plan 2017-23
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan for 2017-23 (formerly the Improvement Plan) for 2017-23 has been reviewed and updated to reflect the key priorities of the Council for the 5 year term under the newly elected administration.

The super-structure of the Plan remains the same as previous plans. The Plan now has six priorities with sub-priorities. The six priorities take a long term view of our aims for the next five years.

The Council Plan is published in a similar format to previous years: highlighting objectives and actions and referencing national issues which could impact upon achievement of the priorities. The Plan fits alongside the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2017-2020.

The Council Plan is in two parts. Part 1 is the statement of our aims and intentions. Part 2 describes the targets and milestones by which the achievements will be measured.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To endorse the detailed Council Plan 2017-18 prior to adoption by the County Council for final publication.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	COUNCIL PLAN 2017-23
1.01	It is a statutory requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) to set objectives and to publish a form of Council Plan, and for the full County Council to adopt the Plan.
1.02	The title of 'Improvement' Plan has been changed to 'Council' Plan as a more fitting term.
1.03	<p>Improvement Objectives and an accompanying Improvement Plan were first set and adopted by the Council in 2011. For the 2013-14 Plan the Council thoroughly reviewed the priorities. The Council re-set its aims with clearer outcome-based measures. This approach continued through to 2016-17. The objectives have again been reviewed given that it is a newly elected Council and the Well-being for Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is in being.</p> <p>This review has resulted in a revised set of six priorities supported by a structure of sub-priorities as endorsed by Cabinet:-</p> <p>Priority: Supportive Council</p> <p>Sub-Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Appropriate and Affordable HomesModern, Efficient and Adapted HomesProtecting people from PovertyIndependent LivingIntegrated Community Social & Health ServicesSafeguarding <p>Priority: Ambitious Council</p> <p>Sub-Priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Business Sector Growth and Regeneration <p>Priority: Learning Council</p> <p>Sub-Priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">High Performing Education <p>Priority: Green Council</p> <p>Sub-Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sustainable Development & Environmental ManagementSafe and Sustainable Travel Services <p>Priority: Connected Council</p> <p>Sub-Priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Resilient Communities

	<p>Priority: Serving Council</p> <p>Sub-Priority: Effective Resource Management</p>
1.04	<p>The Plan format remains largely unchanged, as it has been well received and commented upon favourably. The main change has been the amalgamation of priorities from eight to six. National policy issues have been updated and listed within each sub-priority. These are issues over which we have little control and which may restrict enable or successful and or timely delivery of our priorities. The Plan is linked to the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2017-2020.</p>
1.05	<p>For 2017-18 a review of the current priorities and sub-priorities has been undertaken with the aim of setting: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priorities that continue for sustained attention e.g. “New social and affordable homes”; • priorities which could be broadened e.g. “Regional Economic Growth Deal”; • priorities which could be merged e.g. “Housing” and Living Well” • emerging priorities e.g. Food poverty, Early Help Hub and Youth Council establishment. <p>Sub-priorities have also been set to take into account Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny priorities, priorities of partners, public views, service demands, and national legislation and policy.</p>
1.06	<p>For each sub-priority for 2017-18 there has been a review based on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the reasoning for the priority status; • what we will do and how we will measure achievement; and • the risks that will need to be managed.
1.07	<p>The Council Plan in totality is presented as two documents; firstly the public version of our statements of intent and, secondly, the targets and milestones on which achievement will be measured (Appendix 2).</p> <p>These targets and milestones in the “How we Measure” document are being considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees prior to final agreement by this Cabinet. This will be the document that is used by Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees to monitor progress during the year.</p> <p>To date both Education and Youth, and Social and Health Overview and Scrutiny committees have reviewed Part 2 of the Council Plan with no comments or changes. The remaining Scrutiny Committees will review Part 2 during September. (An update of any further changes will be provided for Cabinet.)</p>
1.08	<p>The Corporate Resources and Overview Scrutiny Committee reviewed the ‘public’ version of the document (Part 1) for its structure, format and overall content. The outcomes from this meeting are shown in Appendix 3.</p>

1.09	The final Council Plan will be available as a web-based document published on the website before the end of September following adoption by the County Council.
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Resource implications have been considered during preparation of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and will continue to be monitored during the regular budget monitoring and financial planning arrangements.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	All Overview and Scrutiny Committees will have had the opportunity to consider and review the content of the draft Plan priorities including the opportunity to scrutinise measures and targets set for 2017-18. A summary of the considerations are appended.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>Delivery of the Plan objectives is risk managed within each of the sub priorities of the Council Plan and monitored and reported against quarterly by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.</p> <p>The risks to the statutory requirements of the Plan include: not publishing the plan within statutory timescales and, not adhering to the prerequisite content.</p> <p>Both these risks are managed through adherence to well established procedures for publishing the Plan and ensuring that the content of the Plan reflects the requirements of the Measure.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1: Council Plan (Part 1) 2017-18.</p> <p>Appendix 2: Council Plan (Part 2) 2017-18</p> <p>Appendix 3: Considerations of Council Plan (Part 1) by Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Appendix 4: Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations – Council Plan (Part 2)</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Contact Officer: Karen Armstrong, Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702740</p> <p>E-mail: Karen.armstrong@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Objectives and publish a Plan.
7.02	Medium Term Financial Strategy: a written strategy which gives a forecast of the financial resources which will be available to a Council for a given period, and sets out plans for how best to deploy those resources to meet its priorities, duties and obligations.