

South Lakeland District Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Friday, 11 January 2019
Draft Council Plan and Draft Council Policy on
Climate Change

Portfolio: Councillor Jonathan Brook - Deputy Leader of the Council
Report from: Debbie Storr - Director of Policy and Resources (Monitoring Officer)
Report Author: Paul Mountford - Principal Performance and Intelligence Officer
Laura Chapman - Corporate Support Officer
Dan Hudson - Development Strategy and Housing Manager
Wards: Not Applicable
Forward Plan: Forward Plan as published on 2 October 2018

1.0 Expected Outcome

- 1.1 The Council Plan sets out a vision, underpinned by three priorities that will guide how we work together with partners to make South Lakeland the best place to live, work and explore.
- 1.2 The corporate Council Policy on Climate Change sets out the Council's commitment to progressively address the causes and the impacts of climate change, according to our local priorities, securing maximum benefit for our communities and is adopted to form part of the Council's Policy Framework.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) **consider the draft Council Plan and provide any comments for Cabinet to consider prior to its recommendation to Council, and**
- (2) **consider the draft Council Policy on Climate Change and provide any comments for Cabinet to consider prior to its recommendation to form part of the Council's Policy Framework.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

- 3.1 The Council Plan sets out the council's vision and priorities. It is part of a suite of corporate documents and links closely with the Medium Term Financial Plan. These documents form part of the Council's Policy Framework and underpin the council's approach to governance and community leadership.
- 3.2 The current Council Plan was for the period 2014 to 2019, updated annually. This new Plan is intended to run from 2019 to 2024. In developing the plan the vision has been revised to add the words "working together" to reflect that we cannot achieve our ambition alone, and that we work with partners to deliver on our vision and ambitions.

- 3.3 The vision, as stated in the revised Council Plan is *“Working together to make South Lakeland the best place to live, work and explore.”* To achieve the vision the Council’s areas of focus are:
- Creating an environment for people to thrive
 - Delivering excellent value-for-money, services
 - Playing a leading role and influencing others
 - Empowering customers and communities
 - Forward thinking, innovative Council
- 3.4 As with the previous versions, the Council Plan retains the values:
- Empowering People
By listening to our customers and our employees their ideas and comments will help us make improvements to customer service and workforce development.
 - Excellence
Seeking continuous improvement in what we do, ensuring that our actions address the needs of South Lakeland.
 - Open and Transparent
Being courteous, efficient and transparent in our dealings with the public.
- 3.5 The Council Plan sets out the challenges and opportunities that the district faces in the short, medium and long term. These are described in detail in Appendix 3. In brief the challenges and opportunities are:
- South Lakeland’s demography
 - Financial resilience
 - Affordable housing
 - Sustainability
 - Rise in obesity levels and inactivity
 - Access to better training and development, and
 - Education and skills.
- 3.6 In order to meet the challenges and maximise opportunities the Council Plan sets out the delivery of the vision by:
- Working across boundaries to deliver to communities that,
 - Creates the right balance across different age groups that,
 - Reduces inequalities so that no one is left behind that,
 - Creates a sustainable and inclusive economy.
- 3.7 In addition to the Council Plan, an Executive Summary (as detailed in Appendix 4) has been developed. This document states the high level priorities across the cross-cutting themes to deliver the overall strategic aims of the Council.
- 3.8 Developing a sustainable and inclusive economy is a key element of the new Council Plan. This reflects growing awareness of the importance of Climate Change and the Council’s role in tackling it.
- 3.9 The policy (as detailed in Appendix 5) represents a public recognition of the importance of Climate Change, an awareness of the opportunities offered by both tackling and adapting to meet the challenge of climate change and a series of ways in which the Council could reflect the importance of climate change both in how it manages itself and how it works with partners at the local, regional and national level.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The Council Plan has been developed following meetings held with Cabinet Members and Officers. Following the consultation with Overview and Scrutiny Committee the plan will be considered by Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and Full Council on 26 February 2019.
- 4.2 In development of the Council Plan the Council's existing priorities and activities have been reviewed. An assessment of the challenges facing the South Lakeland and the views of residents, councillors, staff and other interested parties have been taken into account.
- 4.3 As part of the work of the Green Team, a corporate Council Policy on Climate Change has been drafted which will sit alongside the Council Plan as part of the Council's overall Policy Framework.
- 4.4 The Council Policy on Climate Change has been developed following meetings held with Cabinet Members and Officers. Following the consultation with Overview and Scrutiny Committee the policy will be considered by Cabinet on 6 February 2019 and Full Council on 26 February 2019.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The alternative option is not to approve the Council Plan. This is not recommended as the strategy sets the visions, values and delivery as the key strategy of the Council. Not recommending the approval of the plan would reduce the likelihood of the council's ambitions being delivered.
- 5.2 The alternative option is not to approve the draft Council policy on Climate Change as part of the Council's Policy Framework. This is not recommended as the policy sets out a number of commitments as well as acknowledging that climate change is occurring, and seeks to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits which come from combating, and developing resilience to, climate change and developing a sustainable economy.

6.0 Links to Council Priorities

- 6.1 The Council Plan is the key strategic document for the organisation. It sets out the council priorities and is linked to all key strategies, including the Medium Term Financial Plan, Workforce Plan and Performance and Service Plans.
- 6.2 The draft Council policy on Climate Change, once approved, will form part of the Council's Policy Framework.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

- 7.1 The budget process has been running alongside the development of the Council Plan and while the Council Plan represents the key strategic vision taken by the council, the Medium Term Financial Plan details the council's financial position.
- 7.2 The Council Plan and Council Policy on Climate Change are linked and the resources identified in the Medium Term Financial Plan will be allocated to service areas and capital projects to enable the council priorities to be delivered.

Human Resources

- 7.3 The Customer Connect Programme sets out the skills, knowledge and support that is needed to deliver the ambitions and priorities set out in the Council Plan and the draft Council policy on Climate Change.

Legal

7.4 There are no legal implications to raise at this stage.

Health, Social, Economic and Environmental

7.5 Have you completed a Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment? **Yes** (attached at Appendix 1).

7.6 Assessments will be carried out of the health, social, economic and environmental impact of individual projects linked to the Council Plan and Council Policy on Climate Change.

Equality and Diversity

7.7 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? **Yes** (attached at Appendix 2).

7.8 Assessments will be carried out of the impact of individual projects linked to the Council Plan and the Council Policy on Climate Change in respect of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
The Council Plan and Climate Change Policy are not adopted by the council	Compromise the delivery of the priorities, service planning and performance monitoring. The Council does not have an up to date basis for prioritisation and performance management	Ensure significant engagement and consultation has been achieved
Actions by partner organisations, necessary to deliver the Council Plan and Council Policy on Climate Change are not forthcoming	Delivery will not match expectation	Close engagement and joint working with critical delivery partners
There are insufficient resources to enable delivery of the Council Plan and the Council Policy on Climate Change	Priorities and objectives are not met	Ensure appropriate resources are available and account had of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan

Contact Officers

Paul Mountford, Principal Performance and Intelligence Officer, 01539 793271,
p.mountford@southlakeland.gov.uk

Laura Chapman, Corporate Support Officer, 01539 793440,
l.chapman@southlakeland.gov.uk

Dan Hudson, Development Strategy and Housing Manager, 01539 793378,
d.hudson@southlakeland.gov.uk

Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Council Plan and Council Policy on Climate Change - Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment
2	Council Plan and Council Policy on Climate Change - Equality Impact Assessment
3	Council Plan
4	Council Plan - Executive Summary
5	Draft Council Policy on Climate Change

Background Documents Available

Name of Background document	Where it is available
C/61 2014-2019 Council Plan (2017 Update)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=4276&Ver=4
C/79 2014-2019 Council Plan (2017 Update)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=4058&Ver=4
C/79 2014-2019 Council Plan (2016 Update)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=3771&Ver=4
C/82 2014-2019 Council Plan (2015 Update)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=3566&Ver=4
C/78 - Council Plan 2014-2019	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=3460&Ver=4

Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent
Legal Services	13 December 2018
Section 151 Officer	13 December 2018
Monitoring Officer	13 December 2018
SMT	20 December 2018

Circulated to	Date sent
Assistant Director	13 December 2018
Human Resources Manager	13 December 2018
Communications Team	13 December 2018
Leader	20 December 2018
Committee Chairman	24 December 2018
Portfolio Holder	20 December 2018
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	11 January 2019
Executive (Cabinet)	6 February 2019
Council	26 February 2019