

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****CABINET****DATE: 28 MARCH 2017****REPORT OF: MR DAVID HODGE, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****LEAD OFFICER: DAVID MCNULTY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE****SUBJECT: SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL: CORPORATE STRATEGY 2017-2022****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Cabinet is asked to endorse a refreshed version of the Council's Corporate Strategy. The Strategy will then be presented to the County Council meeting on 23 May 2017 for approval. The Strategy will ensure that Surrey residents remain healthy, safe and confident about their future.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that the Cabinet endorses the refreshed version of the Corporate Strategy 2017-2022 and recommend that it be presented to the County Council meeting on 23 May 2017 for approval.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

By reconfirming a long term vision for the county and setting goals and key actions for the next financial year the refreshed Corporate Strategy provides a clear sense of direction for Council staff, residents, businesses and partner organisations. As part of the Council's Policy Framework (as set out in the Constitution) the Corporate Strategy must be approved by the County Council.

**DETAILS:****Background**

1. On 16 July 2013 the County Council approved a long term Strategy for the Council. It was agreed that the Strategy would undergo a refresh on an annual basis. This report presents a refresh of the version that was previously approved by the Council on 9 February 2016.

**Corporate Strategy 2017-2022**

2. The strategic challenges facing the Council stem from two significant and persisting trends. Firstly, population changes - alongside the introduction of new responsibilities and duties - mean there are an increasing number of activities the Council needs to carry out in order to fulfil its purpose. Secondly, the total financial resource available to deliver these functions continues to reduce in real terms.
3. By implementing its Strategy since 2013 the Council has made good progress in meeting these challenges. The recently published [Annual Report 2015/16](#) and [Chief Executive's six month progress reports](#) illustrate this.

4. The refreshed document for 2017-2022 reconfirms the strategic direction which has helped the Council to navigate significant challenges over recent years. It also updates the context to reflect the challenging environment in which the Council is operating.

#### **Supporting strategies and plans**

5. There are a number of more detailed supporting strategies and plans which contribute to the delivery of the Strategy. These will continue to be refreshed periodically as required.
6. The detailed goals and actions that services will deliver in 2017/18 are included as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan reported to the Cabinet alongside this report.

#### **CONSULTATION:**

7. The Council's long term strategy has been discussed at a range of events over recent months involving Members and officers from across the Council.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

8. There are no direct risk management implications arising from this report.

#### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

9. The Corporate Strategy is developed in line with budget planning. It sets the strategic direction reflected in the Medium Term Financial Plan 2017-2022.

#### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

10. The Corporate Strategy has been refreshed alongside the development of the Council's future budget. The Medium Term Financial Plan 2017-2022 is presented separately to Cabinet at this meeting.

#### **Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer**

11. Cabinet will need to take account of the Public Sector Equality Duty in considering this Strategy. There is a requirement to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity for people with protected characteristics, foster good relations between such groups, and eliminate any unlawful discrimination. These matters are dealt with in the equalities paragraphs of the report. Otherwise there are no legal implications/legislative requirements arising directly from this report.

#### **Equalities and Diversity**

12. The Strategy sets out goals and commitments that have positive implications for all residents, including protected groups. There are specific positive commitments in relation to children and young people, older people, and people with disabilities. However, given the high-level nature of these goals it is not possible to carry out an equality impact assessment at this stage.
13. The equalities implications of the goals will continue to be considered in relation to the more detailed and specific policies that stem from the overall Strategy, including the full Medium Term Financial Plan 2017-2022.

<b>WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:</b>
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- Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy 2017-2022 will be presented to the County Council at its meeting on 23 May 2017 for approval.
- The Strategy will be published on the Council's website in readiness for the start of the 2017/18 financial year.
- An internal communications campaign will be run to raise awareness of the Strategy.
- The measures and targets for the Council's goals and key actions for 2017/18 will be finalised with progress reported throughout the year on the Council's website.
- The Chief Executive will continue to publish six-monthly progress reports on the Council's website.
- Scrutiny Boards will continue to scrutinise work programmes and performance.

**Lead Officer:**

David McNulty, Chief Executive

**Consulted:**

Cabinet Members

Continual Improvement and Productivity Network

**Annexes:**

Annex 1: Surrey County Council: Corporate Strategy 2017-2022

**Sources/background papers:**

- Chief Executive's [six month progress report](#)
- Surrey County Council's [Annual Report 2015/16](#)

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