

To: **Overview and Scrutiny Commission**
18 October 2023

Draft Council Plan
Assistant Director: Chief Executive's Office

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the draft Council Plan to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, following engagement and development with councillors and staff. This draft includes the full plan content including, narrative, vision, themes, goals, and key results.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 To review the draft plan (appendix A) and recommend any changes to the Executive for consideration before the plan is presented for adoption in November.**

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The views of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission are sought as a key consultee to help shape the direction of the plan, which will underpin the development of the Overview and Scrutiny work programme.

4 Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 The Council Plan has evolved during the course of its development based on engagement and feedback. This has been included in the current draft and can be further amended prior to the final papers in November.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Council Plan sets out the overall ambition for what the council aims to achieve for, and with, residents, businesses and partners. It is a strategy document identifying priorities and how the council will measure progress and performance. The new plan will cover the period from 2023 until 2027.
- 5.2 The Council Plan provides a framework for a more detailed set of actions detailed in annual directorate service plans. These plans will include the operational tasks and initiatives linked to each of the themes and goals. Progress in delivering against the Council Plan goals will be reported through externally published quarterly reports. One role of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission is to review these reports, making recommendations to the Executive, therefore the group should consider the appropriateness of the content.
- 5.3 The development of the new Council Plan has undertaken several phases, from insights collection and mapping, to refining and feasibility testing. Each stage involved a range of stakeholders including councillors, managers and data leads. It is now at the stage of a draft plan. It has been a priority to ensure that the plan is relevant for the coming four years; aspirational in the direction of travel but also feasible to deliver within the context of resources.
- 5.4 This plan does not sit in isolation and is complemented by a range of underpinning principles such as the commitment to equality, health, and climate; these strategies are all referenced. Achieving the goals of the plan and the best outcomes for

residents will require a system approach, therefore joint working is a key foundation of delivering the plan.

6 Consultation and Other Considerations

Legal Advice

- 6.1 The Council Plan forms part of the Policy Framework and a decision on its implementation is therefore reserved to a quorate meeting of the Council. This is scheduled for 29 November 2023.

Financial Advice

- 6.2 The Council Plan is being developed alongside the budget planning processes to appropriately align resources and activity.

Other Consultation Responses

- 6.3 There has been significant engagement as part of developing the new Council Plan. This has been detailed throughout the report and the feedback included within the draft presented in Appendix A.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion issues are being considered as part of the process to create the new plan. The importance of these are recognised within the plan as an underpinning principle across all activity. An Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted as part of the development to ensure that there is no exclusion or inequality is created by the plan.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.5 The Council Plan is a key part of the council's framework for performance management. The strategic commitments agreed on, and the delivery against them, will form part of issues monitored within the risk management processes.

Climate Change Implications

- 6.6 The plan identifies the importance of addressing climate change and the role the council has related to this. There are specific goals and key results identified to address and reduce carbon emissions.

Health & Wellbeing Considerations

- 6.7 The plan identifies the importance of health and wellbeing and the role the council has related to this. There are specific goals and key results identified to address the health and wellbeing of the population and monitor the local outcomes. Both physical and mental health are recognised within the plan, at universal and targeted tiers.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

Katie Flint, Chief Executive's Office- 01344 352217

Katie.flint@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Abby Thomas, Chief Executives Office – 01344 353307

Abby.thomas@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Appendix A – Draft Council Plan

[attached as separate document]