

Report sponsor: Chief Executive Officer
Report author: Head of Strategy and
Performance

Council Plan 2022 - 2025

Purpose

- 1.1 During the pandemic, we have seen the significant benefits that working with the city can deliver.
- 1.2 By working together with partners, businesses, citizens and our colleagues we have maximised our resources, skills and knowledge to respond to COVID-19, alongside delivering our 'business as usual' services.
- 1.3 As we have worked with the city over the last 18-months, priorities have emerged, in response to the latest opportunities and challenges that Derby faces, which should re-shape the focus of our work over the next three years.
- 1.4 To make sure that Derby's Council Plan remains fit for purpose, and appropriately aligned to the City's Partnership Board ambitions, it is proposed that the 2019 - 2023 Plan is replaced.
- 1.5 The purpose of this report is to present a draft Council Plan for consultation, alongside the Medium Term Financial Strategy, for 2022 to 2025. It should be noted that Appendices 1 and 2 have been marked to follow and will be issued alongside the budget proposals in advance of the meeting.

Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the start of appropriate consultation with citizens, colleagues, partners and other stakeholders on the draft Council Plan 2022 – 2025 (**Appendix 1**), in line with the budget consultation.
- 2.2 To note that an equality impact assessment will be completed in line with the consultation period.
- 2.3 To note that a Council Delivery Plan for 2022/23 will be developed, for consideration and approval, by April 2022.





Reasons

- 3.1 As the democratically elected body in Derby, the Council has a leading role, working in collaboration with our partners, business and communities, to shape a strategic vision and plan for the city.

- 3.2 To consult on our draft Council Plan 2022-2025, in line with the consultation on our budget proposals, which reflects the current and future needs of the city.

Supporting information

- 4.1 Derby's current Council Plan covers the period from April 2019 to the end of March 2023.
- 4.2 In February 2021, Cabinet approved a Recovery Plan for the city, which reflected the commitments of the Council and partners to support Derby to respond to, and recover from, the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4.3 The Recovery Plan underpinned the Council Plan 2019 – 2023, forming the foundations of our performance framework in 2021/22.
- 4.4 Informed by an assessment of need, opportunities and threats, our Partnership Board has agreed four priority areas / themes that will form the basis of our future ways of working, and ambitions for the city.

| Partnership theme / priority area | Our intended outcomes by working together | Supporting information |
|--|--|--|
| Green city  | Protecting and enhancing our environment | For a compact city we have a lot of green spaces. In the face of climate change we will lead communities and partners to make a difference. |
| City of growth  | Creating a modern, SMART city, with jobs and skills for the future | Our city is home to some significant employers, and we have a strong history of manufacturing and innovation. We want to diversify and grow. Our ambition is to be a smart, super-connected city that has skills, jobs and space for the future. |
| Vibrant city  | Reimagining our city with culture at its heart | Derby is a historic city and a UNESCO world heritage site. We are putting culture at the heart of the city, reinvigorating our city centre and developing our cultural offer. |
| Resilient city  | Working with our communities to improve health, wealth and opportunities | There are over 4,000 community and voluntary groups in Derby. Building on our strong sense of pride and community, we're determined we can reduce inequalities and improve health and wellbeing across the city; unlocking the potential within our communities. |

- 4.5 A robust and effective strategic planning framework should form the backbone of any organisation – setting out clearly what is going to be delivered, why, how this will be resourced and how progress will be monitored and evaluated.
- 4.6 There are many purposes that a simple and clear strategic plan should perform. It:
- sets the vision and long-term goals for an organisation;
 - aligns commitments and outcomes with partners;
 - communicates priorities and expectations;
 - provides realistic goals for the future, in the context of available resources; and
 - sets out the difference that will be made, and how this will be evidenced.
- 4.7 To make sure that Derby's Council Plan remains fit for purpose, and appropriately aligned to the City's Partnership Board ambitions, it is proposed that the 2019 - 2023 Plan is replaced.
- 4.8 The refreshed plan will cover the period April 2022 to the end of March 2025, and its delivery will be enabled by the following principles that align to our existing council values...
- **review and prioritise our resources**, using our capital ambition to invest in projects that support the achievement of city outcomes
 - **be accountable** to our communities, citizens and colleagues
 - make the **best decisions** for Derby, even if making some of them are difficult.
 - model a '**can-do**' attitude to maximise opportunities for Derby
 - **communicate regularly** with businesses and citizens, with meaningful engagement
 - **work in partnership** to unlock the potential within our city, maximising our community assets.
- 4.9 The Plan will be focused on what actions we will take, in each of the four partnership priority areas and the differences that we are aiming to make; informed by a refreshed vision:
- Ambitious for Derby - "working together with the city, for the city"***
- 4.10 In addition to the four partnership themes, the Council has an enabling Council programme of transformation and improvement, 'Working Smarter'. This programme aims to deliver the modern, effective and value for money public services that local people deserve and will ensure that the Council's finances are manageable and sustainable over the medium to long-term. The Council Plan also recognises the importance of working 'Better Together' across organisational boundaries, championing change and unlocking the potential of our communities.
- 4.11 The development of the draft Council Plan (**Appendix 1**) has been completed in line with our Medium Term Financial Strategy proposals, for the same period, to ensure that our commitments are resourced and deliverable.
- 4.12 A summary plan on a page is presented in **Appendix 2**.

- 4.13 It is proposed that consultation on the initial draft of the plan will begin on Wednesday 22 December 2021 and run until Friday 28 January 2022. This will give partners, citizens, businesses and other stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposals and this will be used to inform the final decisions at Council Cabinet.
- 4.14 The consultation will be open to anybody who lives, works or studies in Derby and wants to take part. An online survey will be available on the website with paper versions available at the Council House reception, at libraries and on request, subject to COVID restrictions.
- 4.15 A consultation document setting out the proposals will be prepared and published on the day the consultation opens, and the consultation will be undertaken alongside the budget consultation.
- 4.16 Following consultation, the final designed draft of the Council Plan will be presented to Cabinet in February 2022, alongside the outcomes from the consultation on our budget proposals. Both final documents will be subject to Council approval before publication at the end of March 2022.
- 4.17 To ensure that we have an effective performance framework for 2022/23, a Council Delivery Plan will be developed to underpin the refreshed Council Plan. This will be presented for Cabinet approval by the end of April 2022.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 The outcomes within the plan have been identified through our partnership work, and the contents of the plan sets out how we will work going forward, to support improvements in these areas.
- 5.2 The plan will be subject to consultation, alongside the consultation on our Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

Other options

- 6.1 The Council could choose not to develop a refreshed Council Plan; however this would jeopardise the long-term outcomes for residents, businesses and communities.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 Commitments within the Council Plan have been appropriately aligned to our Medium-Term Financial Strategy, and both documents are put forward for consultation together.

Legal implications

- 8.1 There is no statutory duty to publish a Council Plan, however it is critical to the improvement of services and outcomes.

Climate implications

- 9.1 Identified as a priority within the draft plan.

Other significant implications

10.1 An equality impact assessment will be completed in line with the consultation period.

This report has been approved by the following people:

| Role | Name | Date of sign-off |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Legal | Emily Feenan – Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer | 13/12/2021 |
| Finance | Simon Riley – Strategic Director Corporate Resources & S151 Officer | 13/12/2021 |
| Service Director(s) | Heather Greenan, Director of Policy Insight and Communications | 10/12/2021 |
| Report sponsor Other(s) | Paul Simpson – Chief Executive | 13/12/2021 |

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| Background papers: | |
| List of appendices: | Appendix 1 – Draft Council Plan 2022 – 2025 Appendix 2 – Draft 2022 – 2025 Plan on a Page |