
Meeting: Customer and Central Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 16 April 2012

Subject: Medium Term Plan (MTP) – Consultation document

Report of: Cllr James Jamieson, Leader and Cllr Maurice Jones, Deputy Leader and Executive Member, Corporate Resources

Summary: The report proposes Overview and Scrutiny consider the content of the emerging MTP prior to its adoption by Full Council on 21 June 2012.

Advising Officer: Richard Carr, Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Gillian Dent, Programme Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

1. The emerging MTP 2012-2016 sets out the councils proposed priorities for the next 4 years. If Full Council adopt the MTP in June, the new priorities will replace the old. The developing priorities are:
 - Enhancing Central Bedfordshire – creating jobs, managing growth, protecting our countryside and enabling businesses to grow.
 - Improved education attainment.
 - Promote health and wellbeing and protecting the vulnerable.
 - Better infrastructure – improved roads, broadband reach and transport.
 - Great universal services – bins, leisure and libraries.
 - Value for money – freezing council tax.

Financial:

2. There are currently no additional financial implications in delivering the emerging priorities within the MTP. The Medium Term Financial Plan was developed to take account of the emerging priorities and once adopted by Full Council, the MTP will continue to form the basis of its future development.

Legal:

3. There are no specific legal implications in delivering the emerging priorities within the MTP.

Risk Management:

4. If the MTP is adopted by Full Council in June 2012, a full risk assessment of the impact of delivering the new priorities will be undertaken and the Strategic and Directorate risk registers will be reviewed and updated to reflect the outcome.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

5. Through the duration of the delivery of the plan to 2016 staffing issues may arise as a result of delivering the priorities. As they arise, consultation will take place with the trade unions and affected staff in accordance with the Council's Managing Change policy.

Equalities/Human Rights:

6. Public authorities have a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

As part of the development of the strategies which underpin the Medium Term Plan, Equality Impact Assessments have been undertaken and a variety of specific objectives designed to promote equality have been approved.

Public Health

7. There are a significant number of priorities and targets that will have an impact and will make a difference to the wider determinants of health e.g. priorities in relation to employment and NEETs.

Community Safety:

8. There are some targets within the MTP which are relevant with regard to Community Safety. The targets under the priority of Enhancing Central Bedfordshire – creating jobs, managing growth, protecting our countryside and enabling businesses to grow are:
 - To reduce the levels of crime e.g. burglary, robbery, vehicle crime and theft from 3312 in 2010/11 by 10% to 2980 by 2016.
 - To decrease the levels of anti social behaviour from the 2011/12 recorded incident figures by 10%.

These will be delivered by working with the new Police and Crime Commissioner and Bedfordshire Police and our Community Safety Partnership.

Sustainability:

9. There are a number of targets where sustainability is relevant. e.g:
- Enhancing Central Bedfordshire - creating jobs, managing growth, protecting our countryside and enabling businesses to grow.
- The Councils emerging Development Strategy will address issues of sustainability, for the relevant targets and the risk assessment referred to in paragraph 4 will address all areas where sustainability is a risk.

Procurement:

10. There are no specific issues in delivering the emerging issues in relation to procurement.

RECOMMENDATION(S):**The Committee is asked to:-**

- 1. Consider and comment on the emerging priorities and targets within the MTP.**
- 2. Agree to the approach for adopting the Medium Term Plan 2012-2016.**

Medium Term Plan – Delivering our Priorities

11. Following the election of the Leader of the Council in 2011, a review of the Council's existing priorities has been undertaken. As a result it was agreed to develop a Medium Term Plan (MTP) for the Council for the next four years setting out priorities which matter most to residents and a delivery plan. A survey of residents was undertaken in Autumn 2011 which formed the basis of the priorities set out in the MTP. Overview and Scrutiny and key partners are asked to comment on the MTP which will be considered by the Executive before final recommendations are made to Council in June. If agreed the MTP will be launched to the public, staff and partners in the most appropriate format.

The Medium Term Plan – Delivering our Priorities

12. The Council agreed, in late 2011, to develop a Medium Term Plan to articulate its priorities from 2012-2016 with targets and plans for delivery.
13. The MTP has been compiled reflecting the needs and views of Central Bedfordshire residents and is attached for consideration.
14. The draft plan has been developed for a variety of external audiences including partners in both the public and private sectors and Central Bedfordshire residents. Its current format can be adapted so it is presented/available in the most appropriate format for each audience.

15. The following timetable sets out how the MTP will be finalised and presented through Executive for its consideration and agreement prior to recommending its adoption by Full Council.

Date	Where	Reason
10-17 April	Overview and Scrutiny Committees	For comment
Through April	LSP and Shadow Health and Well Being Board	For comment
15 May	Executive	Final plan including comments for consideration and recommendation to present to Full Council for adoption.
21 June	Full Council	Final MTP presented to Full Council for adoption

Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the content of the Medium Term Plan and make any comments. Comments will be included in the report to Executive 15 May.

Conclusion

Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to consider and comment on the content of the MTP for consultation prior to consideration by Executive.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Medium Term Plan – Delivering the Priorities