

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

28th February 2020

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris
Leader of Council**

**REPORT TITLE: 2020/2021 Annual Review of Vision 2025 Our Corporate
Improvement Plan, including our Strategic Equality
Objectives 2020-2024**

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present an update of Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP) (outlined in Appendix A) for consideration and approval. The updated CIP is the result of an in-depth review of the current activities and performance measures.

1.2 The CIP 2020 Update also includes a set of proposed new Equality Objectives for implementation from April 2020 onwards. These will replace the seven objectives in the current Strategic Equality Plan 2016-20 which comes to an end in March 2020.

2. Background

2.1 Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023 was first published in April 2018, setting out a series of public commitments for how the council will deliver its four external facing well-being objectives and one internal facing objective:

- We will develop a vibrant economy
- We will lead the way in providing effective, integrated health and care in a rural environment
- We will strengthen learning and skills
- We will support our residents and communities.

- *We also have an internal facing objective called Making it Happen.*

1.2 During quarter 3 of 2019/2020, each service has been given the opportunity to review the activities and performance measure in Vision 2025: Our CIP. As part of the review, services looked at the strengths and weaknesses in relation to delivery of the current plan, as well as opportunities and threats which need to be addressed in future years. In response, services

have proposed some change to the planned activities to ensure we focus on the biggest priorities and those that we can realistically afford.

1.3 During 2019-20 we have been engaging with residents and reviewing the challenges both locally and nationally, to check whether our current strategic equality objectives are still relevant or whether we need to focus on new priorities for the next four year (statutory period). After reviewing the current issues, we have decided to focus on six new equality objectives from 2020 onwards. These include, improving outcomes for children living in poverty, preventing homelessness, enabling people with a disability to gain valued occupation and improving the availability of accessible homes. Our new equality objectives have been informed by the findings of a regional engagement exercise, together with evidence from research conducted by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC), published in their 2018 report called "is Wales Fairer?". Where possible we also used Powys level data to prioritise areas of most need, where the council is able to influence improvement.

1.4 We have taken the opportunity this year to integrate our new equality objectives into the 2020 update of the Corporate Improvement Plan. In previous years, our equality objectives have been published separately in our Strategic Equality Plan. By bringing our plans together, we want to ensure that our equality objectives become integral to delivering the outcomes of Vision 2025.

1.5 The CIP Update 2020 has been developed in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This requires the council to implement well-being objectives in accordance with the 5 Ways of Working and show how it will maximise its contribution to the 7 Well-being goals. The CIP Update 2020 also ensures that the Council meets its statutory obligations under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Part 1) and the Equality Act 2010 (including the Specific Public Sector Equality Duties for Wales).

3. Advice

3.1 It is proposed that the 2020 Update to Vision 2025: Our CIP (outlined in Appendix A) is approved for publication, and is implemented and reported from 1st April 2020. It is also proposed that the council's new equality objectives are integrated into the CIP and published as part of the 2020 update.

3.2 Annually reviewing the activities and measures in the CIP ensures that they are still the most relevant for delivering improved outcomes for Powys residents and communities as well as ensuring the plan remains realistic and achievable within the current financial climate. The recommended changes also aim to ensure that the CIP is streamlined going forward, that it focusses on key transformation and improvement activity, rather than business as usual and that it removes duplication in terms of reporting.

3.3 Integrating the new equality objectives into the Council's CIP, not only allows the council to rationalise the number of plans it publishes, but also ensures that equality becomes part of delivering the Vision 2025 outcomes.

3.4 It is also proposed that the timeframe of the CIP is extended to 2025 to align with Vision 2025. Originally, the 4-year plan (2018-2023) was intended to align with the electoral term of the current Cabinet, and that the next full review of the plan would coincide with the next local government election in May 2023. However, in order to show that the council is committed to seeing Vision 2025 through to fruition, it is proposed that the delivery plans are set out with longer term outcomes in mind.

3.5 The CIP should also remain aligned to the Powys Public Service Board Well-being Plan and the Regional Partnership Board Area Plan to ensure that partners are working towards the same outcomes for the people of Powys.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 The development of the Integrated Business Plans for each service ensures that the financial and workforce requirements for the delivery of each CIP activity are identified and considered. This ensures that resources are prioritised to deliver the objectives of the CIP and the Vision 2025 outcomes.

4.2 The Section 151 Officer can support the recommendations on this basis.

5. Legal implications

5.1 Legal: The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view.

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

6. Comment from local member(s)

6.1 N/A

7. Integrated Impact Assessment

7.1 An Impact Assessment of the CIP Update 2020 has not been undertaken. However, each service is required to undertake an Impact Assessment of the individual activities within the CIP, as part of developing their Integrated Business Plan.

8. Recommendation

8.1 It is recommended that the 2020 Update of Vision 2025: Our CIP (as outlined in Appendix A) is approved for publication, with implementation from April 2020.

8.2 It is recommended that the six new Equality Objectives including their supporting activities and measures (outlined in Appendix A), are approved for publication in the CIP Update 2020, with implementation from April 2020.

8.3 It is recommended that the timeframe of the CIP is extended from 2023 to 2025 to align with Vision 2025.

8.4 The recommendations above will ensure:

- Vision 2025: Our CIP has a clear delivery plan and that all activity is focussed on delivery of the intended outcomes.
- That the council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Part 1) and the 2010 Equality Act and more specifically, the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

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