

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2022

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris,
Leader of the Council

County Councillor Beverley Baynham, Portfolio Holder
for Corporate Governance and Regulatory Service

REPORT TITLE: 2022 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 the annual **update of Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP)** for consideration, and to get approval for a number of amendments to the plan for the 2022-2023 financial year. The proposed amendments (outlined in Appendix A) follow a light review of the current CIP objectives and performance measures during quarter 3 of 2021-2022.
- 1.2 The Council's Strategic Equality Objectives are integrated within the update, and a review of the actions and measures supporting these objectives has also been undertaken and included in Appendix A.

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 Vision, which is, "**By 2025 Powys will be widely recognised as a fantastic place in which to work, live and play**". To help deliver the vision and improve outcomes for residents and communities, the council set four priority 'Well-being Objectives', these are:

- 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.*

2.2 We review Vision 2025: Our CIP annually, reflecting on the progress we have made and updating our plans to ensure that we are on track to deliver the commitments contained within it and to achieve the Well-being objectives we set in 2018. 2022-2023 is the final year of the current Corporate Improvement Plan, and a new plan will be determined and presented by the new Cabinet following the local government elections that are taking place in May 2022. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to highlight the importance of aligning our plans to meet the challenges that face our residents and communities, and the Council has remained focused on providing core services throughout the pandemic. Therefore, this year's review of our Corporate Improvement Plan centred on ensuring our existing objectives and measures would remain relevant for 2022-2023. During quarter 3 of 2021-2022, in line with our strategic planning and budget setting process, each service has undertaken a review of the objectives and measures they are responsible for. In doing so, they have considered:

- Current performance and expected progress in delivering the objectives and targets for 2022-2023
- Views from consultation and engagement exercises
- Resources
- Risk Register
- Statutory duties
- Coronavirus Recovery Strategy
- Findings from the work of our regulators

2.3 The current environment means planning remains more challenging than in previous years, with a great degree of uncertainty about the immediate future. It is intended that the CIP Update 2022 will provide a robust plan for the coming year, setting out the continued commitments of the Council to deliver corporate improvements, whilst also continuing to respond to the pandemic. As a result of the review, services have proposed some changes to the planned objectives to ensure we focus on the biggest priorities and those that we can realistically afford. This includes removing objectives and measures that have been achieved, or which have become 'business as usual' activities for the service.

2.4 The CIP Update 2022 details the revised activities that will be undertaken from April 2022 to deliver our Well-being objectives, within the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic and the council's Recovery Strategy. Reviewing and publishing our CIP for the start of the next financial year, will ensure we meet our statutory obligations in 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 2022 also ensures that the Council meets its statutory obligations under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Equality Act 2010 (including the Specific Public Sector Equality Duties for Wales).

- 2.5 The objectives and improvement targets within the CIP Update 2022 will be included in relevant Service Integrated Business Plans for 2022-2024. These plans set out the detailed actions that will be taken to achieve each objective and the resources required.

3. Advice

- 3.1 It is proposed that the recommended changes to the objectives and performance measures within Vision 2025: Our CIP (outlined in Appendix A) are approved for publication in the CIP Update 2022 and are implemented and reported upon from 1st April 2022.
- 3.2 Annually reviewing the objectives 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.
- 3.3 During quarter 1 of 2021-2022, the Council reviewed and updated its Vision to reflect the importance of learning and education in the county. The revised Vision is: "By 2025, Powys will be widely recognised as a fantastic place in which to live, learn, work and play".
- 3.4 The recommended changes to the CIP ensure that objectives are aligned to the five outcomes. They will 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.
- 3.5 It is advised that the Council continues to integrate its Strategic Equality Objectives into the CIP, to ensure that equality is integral to how we plan and act and provides the basis for delivering the Vision 2025 outcomes.
- 3.6 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 2022 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 proposed amendments to Vision 2025: Our CIP (as outlined in Appendix A) are approved for publication in the CIP Update 2022, with implementation from April 2022.**
- 8.2 The recommendation above will ensure:
- Vision 2025: Our CIP has a clear delivery plan and that all activity is focussed on delivery of the intended outcomes and COVID-19 response and recovery.
 - That the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the 2010 Equality Act and more specifically, the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

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