

North Tyneside Council

Report to Cabinet

Date: 12 August 2013

ITEM 7(b)

Title: Council Plan
2014-2018

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor
Deputy Mayor

Cabinet Member(s): Elected Mayor
Deputy Mayor

Report from Directorate: Chief Executive's Office

Report Author: Jacqueline Laughton
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Policy, Performance and Research
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Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

- 1.1.1 At its meeting on 24 June 2013 Cabinet approved the process and timetable for the development of the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside". Appendix 1 provides a copy of the key dates during the development of the 2014-2018 Council Plan "Our North Tyneside".
- 1.1.2 The purpose of the report is to present the initial proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside", in accordance with the steps set out in the Authority's Constitution and Budget and Policy Framework Procedure rules.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet

- (1) notes the progress made in relation to developing the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside";
- (2) agrees the initial proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside"; and
- (3) authorises the Strategic Manager (Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communications) in consultation with the Elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor to consider feedback from the engagement exercise and to finalise the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside" proposals for them to be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 September 2013, and then for approval by Cabinet on 9 September 2013, before submission to Council on 26 September 2013 for final approval.

1.3 Forward Plan:

28 days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 10 July 2013.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

The Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules are set out in Part 4.7 of the Authority's Constitution, which covers the process for the preparation, consideration and final approval of plans and strategies in the Budget and Policy Framework.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 This report outlines

- the Policy context;
- the Council Plan initial proposals; and
- the results of an engagement process.

Policy Context

1.5.1 In May 2013 the Borough of North Tyneside elected a new Mayor. The new Plan is being developed now to ensure that the Authority is working toward the priorities of the new administration. Developing the Plan at this stage will also provide the policy direction for the Financial Planning and Budget process for 2014/ 2015 and the following three years.

1.5.2 The Plan is being developed against a well publicised reduction in funding for local government and other public bodies. The 2013 National Budget, which was published on 20 March 2013, sets out the broad planning assumption that total spending for 2015-2018 will continue to fall in real terms at the same rate as the current four year 2010 Spending Review. Given this, it is reasonable to assume that this will lead to a further period of austerity for Local Government.

1.5.3 In addition, the 2015/16 Spending Review announced on 26 June 2013 outlined a 10% real terms cut to the Communities and Local Government (DCLG) funding for 2015/16 alone, a reduction nationally of £2.1 billion. This loss of funding is likely to be negated to some extent by a number of policy and funding changes, which include adult social care funding, a two year extension of the council tax freeze grant and the Single Local Growth Fund. The detailed financial implications of the 2015/16 Spending Review for the Authority are being reviewed and will be more fully assessed as more detailed technical information is made available.

1.5.4 It is accepted that the Our North Tyneside Plan can not be delivered just by the Authority working on its own. It will need to be a partnership with local people, communities, businesses and other local public sector and voluntary organisations. To reflect this reality the Authority and North Tyneside Strategic Partnership have agreed that the Our North Tyneside Plan will replace the Sustainable Community Strategy in the future.

Initial proposals

1.5.5 The initial Our North Tyneside Plan proposals have been based on an analysis of need for the Borough. This was developed using current performance information, views of local residents and by considering future trends, such as an ageing population and reduction in national government funding.

1.5.6 The four initial priorities which formed the basis of engagement were

- Our People;
- Our Places;
- Our Prospects; and
- Our Partners.

Appendix 2 provides a copy of the draft proposals used during engagement.

1.5.7 Throughout this period, people were able to contribute their views through a number of different ways, including through email, through talking to Authority staff out and about in the Borough, via a questionnaire available in various venues across the Borough and on the Authority's Website. Views were also sought from councillors, the Residents' Panel, the Staff Panel and the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership Executive.

Engagement process

1.5.8 The four initial priorities have been tested with local people during three weeks of engagement during July 2013.

1.5.9 Authority staff spoke to approximately 600 people face to face across the borough and over 650 questionnaires were completed as a result of this and via the questionnaire on the Authority's website. (There were over 1,400 hits on the information on the Authority website.)

1.5.10 From this engagement 83% of respondents agreed the priorities made sense.

1.5.11 Views were also sought on what will be different about North Tyneside if these priorities were achieved over the next four years. The most frequently mentioned outcomes were

- A better place to live, with happier residents and a strong sense of community;
- A stronger local economy with more jobs;
- A sustainable and clean local environment; and
- Better opportunities for young people and teenagers.

1.5.12 Analysis of the responses from the engagement exercise is now ongoing. Work is also underway to shape the delivery plan actions that will be taken forward to achieve the new Plan. This will include the key measures which will be used to monitor ongoing performance. Following completion of this analysis, Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 September 2013, and then Cabinet will consider the final proposals at its meeting on 9 September 2013, before submission to Council on 26 September 2013 for final approval.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet.

Option 1

To agree the initial proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 "Our North Tyneside" and authorise the Strategic Manager, Policy and Partnerships in consultation with the Elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor to consider feedback from the engagement exercise and to finalise the Council Plan proposals for them to be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 September 2013.

Option 2

To not agree the initial proposals for the Council Plan.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

- 1.7.1 Option 1 is the recommended option. This will enable work to continue to reflect the outcomes from engagement in the final proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 “Our North Tyneside” and for the final proposals to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and Council ahead of budget setting in the Autumn.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Key dates during the development of the 2014- 2018 Council Plan “Our North Tyneside”

Appendix 2: Draft priorities used during engagement July 2013.

1.9 Contact officers:

The names, titles and contact numbers of the key officer who has contributed to the report and other relevant officers should be set out here in the following format:

Jacqueline Laughton, Strategic Manager (Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communications) Chief Executive’s Office tel 0191 643 7070

Craig Anderson, Policy, Performance and Research Manager Chief Executive’s Office tel 0191 643 5621

Felicity Shoesmith, Partnership and Involvement Manager Chief Executive’s Office tel 0191 643 7071

Eileen Wiltshire, Policy Adviser Chief Executive’s Office tel 0191 643 5620

Vicki Dixon, Senior Manager, Commercial Finance and Major Contracts Finance and Resources tel 0191 643 5723

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

(1) Council Plan 2014 -2018 “Our North Tyneside” report to Cabinet 24 June 2013
[Report to Cabinet 24 June 2013](#)

(2) The Authority’s Constitution and Budget and Policy Framework Rules
[Hyperlink Constitution](#)

(3) North Tyneside Evidence Base to support the refresh of the Council Plan
[Hyperlink to Evidence Base](#)

(4) Residents Survey 2012
[Hyperlink to Residents Survey 2012](#)

(5) Residents’ Panel May 2013
[Event report May 2013](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

Costs in developing the 2014-2018 Council Plan “Our North Tyneside” and the engagement programme will be met from existing resources.

Once developed, the Council Plan 2014-2018 will provide the policy direction for the Financial Planning and Budget process for 2014/2015 and the following three years.

2.2 Legal

The process to develop the 2014 -2018 Council Plan “Our North Tyneside” has been prepared to comply with the Policy Framework Procedure Rules contained in the Authority’s Constitution.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

This report sets out the timetable for the development of the Council Plan. The engagement has included opportunities for employees from across the Authority to have their say and as well as Elected Members. The draft Council Plan has been discussed with Cabinet and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

Engagement on the draft priorities took place between 2 July 2013 and 21 July 2013. Authority staff spoke to approximately 600 people and there were over 1,400 hits on the information on the Authority’s website.

2.4 Human rights

All actions and spending contained within the Council Plan will be fully compliant with Human Rights Law.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

In undertaking the development of a new Council Plan, our aim will at all times be to secure compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and in particular the public sector equality duty under that Act.

An equality impact assessment has been conducted on the Council Plan Engagement programme.

2.6 Risk management

Individual projects to deliver the priorities in the Council Plan are subject to full risk reviews. For larger projects, individual project risk registers are / will be established as part of the Authority’s agreed approach to project management. Risks will be entered into the appropriate Directorate or Corporate / Strategic Risk Register(s) and will be subject to ongoing management to reduce the likelihood and impact of each risk.

2.7 Crime and disorder

2.7.1 Individual proposals within this report do not themselves have direct implications for crime and disorder. However, ultimately decisions may be made and considered as part of the overall Financial Planning and Budget process.

2.7.2 Under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, local authorities have a statutory duty to work with partners on the reduction of crime and disorder, substance misuse and reoffending.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

The Council Plan 2014-2018 Our North Tyneside will bring forward a number of priorities that will enhance and protect the environment.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X

- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X

- Chief Finance Officer X

- Monitoring Officer X

- Strategic Manager (Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communications) X

Appendix 1: Key dates during the development of the Council Plan 2014-2018 “Our North Tyneside”

Date	Event	Purpose
April		Development of Evidence Base for the Council Plan and assessment of relevant engagement.
24 June 2013	Cabinet	Cabinet approval for the process for the development of the 2014 -2018 Council Plan.
1 July 2013	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Overview and Scrutiny will examine Cabinet’s consultation proposals and timetable for the development of the 2014-2018 Council Plan “Our North Tyneside”.
2 July- 15 July 2013		Engagement on the Council Plan draft proposals.
12 August 2013	Cabinet	Cabinet considers its draft proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 “Our North Tyneside”.
2 September 2013	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Overview and Scrutiny consider Cabinet’s initial proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 “Our North Tyneside”.
9 September 2013	Cabinet	Cabinet approves its final proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 “Our North Tyneside”.
11 September 2013	NTSP Executive	The North Tyneside Strategic Partnership (NTSP) consider the draft Council Plan 2014-2018 “ Our North Tyneside”
26 September 2013	Council	Council to approve the Council Plan 2014 -2018 “Our North Tyneside”.

Appendix 2: Draft priorities used during engagement July 2013.

Our North Tyneside Where we work together to make it better...

North Tyneside Council is developing a new four year "Our North Tyneside Plan". It will set out what the Council will do to improve the borough. We would like your views on the following...

People

Our people...

- will be encouraged to aim high and achieve great things, especially our children and young people
- will have a voice in shaping services so we can respond better and faster to local needs
- will become fitter by adopting healthier lifestyles
- will be cared for and kept safe when they become vulnerable

Places

Our places...

- where people live, work and visit will engender pride
- will be tended and many will benefit from regeneration
- will benefit from new homes being provided, including quality, affordable homes
- will benefit from a greater emphasis on public safety across the borough

Prospects

Our prospects will include...

- the development of a vibrant community, fit for future generations
- the creation of more job opportunities and apprenticeships for young people to start their careers
- encouragement for investors and entrepreneurs to come to North Tyneside
- the promotion of our strengths including tourism, engineering, office parks, marine technology and the development of new, modern industries

Partners

Our partners will benefit from strengthened working relationships and include...

- the Police, Fire and Rescue Service and NHS
- schools and colleges, where our children and young people will receive the skills they need for the future
- businesses and manufacturers who will be assisted to develop and expand
- the voluntary sector, which provides training and opportunities for thousands across the borough



North Tyneside Council