

Cabinet version

Vale of White Horse District Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024

APPENDIX 2 FOR THE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The Appendix H – TABLE CONFIRMING OUTCOMES TO RECOMMENDATIONS. The full report is available to view on our Corporate Plan [website page](#).

SEPTEMBER 2020

Recommendation	Agree	Cabinet comments
<p>RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider reviewing the vision for Vale of White Horse District Council’s Corporate Plan 2020-24 with thought given to incorporating some of the alternative wording put forward and refining it’s focus and length.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>The vision is going to be re-written to address comments and suggestions raised.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider prioritising a project, as part of Theme 6, Working in an Open and Inclusive Way, under programme 6.2 <i>We will increase meaningful engagement and communication with everyone.</i> specifically, around increasing participation and engagement to ensure equality of representation</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>There will be a year 1, 2, and 3 delivery plan which sets out more detailed information to how the council will deliver the commitments within the Plan. The engagement findings will inform the delivery planning for year 1.</p> <p>Cabinet members will work with their portfolio areas to ensure the findings from this</p>

in local democracy and decision making in the district.		engagement have been translated into detailed delivery plans for year 1.
RECOMMENDATION Consider increasing the prominence of Theme 6, Working in an Open and Inclusive Way in the Corporate Plan 2020-24 by structuring projects under this theme for delivery in year 1 of the Corporate Plan given this theme scored highly. This could lead to a strong base built on trust and openness, to help deliver priorities in other areas.	Agree	There will be a year 1, 2, and 3 delivery plan which sets out more detailed information to how the council will deliver the commitments within the Plan. The engagement findings will inform the delivery planning for year 1. Cabinet members will work with their portfolio areas to ensure the findings from this engagement have been translated into detailed delivery plans for year 1.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider how to re-emphasise the mandate for action on the Climate Emergency, given the high level of support for this theme.	Agree	There will be a Cabinet member for the Climate Emergency. They will work with the councils Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) to re-emphasise the importance of this area.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider whether they would like to ask the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee to review their advice in respect of targets.	Agree	The Cabinet member for the Climate Emergency will review the targets and the progress of the work programme for year one and report any recommendations to Cabinet.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider including or increasing the prominence of active travel in the scope of the proposed project to refresh an active communities strategy.	Agree	This will be included in the scope of the active communities strategy. In addition, we will ensure that all of the work we do shows our commitment to Active Travel.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider including projects suggested such as creating a high-quality district-wide cycling/pedestrian network and publicising existing cycle and pedestrian routes through our communications channels.	Agree	A project has now been included in the plan to Work with partners to produce an Active Travel Network map of current and required coverage across the Vale to include commercial and community buses, cycle paths and storage facilities, pavements and footpaths, green and blue infrastructure, and local taxi firm and

		encourage systems that increase use of the Active Travel Network.
RECOMMENDATION Many respondents suggested that the council should embed a culture of continuous improvement and review services to ensure that we continue to provide value for money. The Transformation Monitoring Group should review this report and build in any relevant comments into the forthcoming transformation reviews.	Agree	The findings from this engagement are a rich source of intelligence and will be reviewed by the Transformation Monitoring Group at a future meeting to help shape plans.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider addressing within the Corporate Plan foreword the rationale for including Theme 4, Building Stable Finances as a standalone theme.	Agree	The foreword will set the tone and provide important contextual framing for the Corporate Plan 2020-24. The foreword will be developed by the Leader of the Council and informed by comments received during this engagement but will specifically highlight the need for Theme 4, Building Stable Finances as a standalone theme.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider and ensure that the development of the corporate performance management framework allows for active and open visibility and understanding of decision-making. For example, investigate functionality to be able to “drill down” into data on how well the council is performing against its Corporate Plan 2020-24 programmes and projects and identify the relevant decision-makers who are accountable.	Agree	Many respondents thought that the council should provide greater transparency in terms of its decision making. Many thought that the amount of information currently provided was insufficient and opaque. The council are currently reviewing how they monitor performance and a new performance management framework will be reviewed at a future Cabinet meeting. It is anticipated that the new approach will address this.
RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider more active promotion of council and committee meetings to the general public and make these events more accessible through the use of	Agree	This is a very important and part of an overall communications strategy on the Plan and on-going engagement.

<p>technology, online streaming and video recordings and consider more use of Plain English in communications, and infographics to help illustrate complex topics or those with detail.</p>		<p>Plain English will be used in the Corporate Plan 2020-24 for words that were not clear and the council's style guide updated for future reference and communications.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION – Cabinet to consider how to address and manage the strength of feeling around the topic of asset disposal as they take forward the Strategic Property Review.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Cabinet will review and look at ways of generating additional revenue and income, to address the financial challenges we face.</p> <p>The findings from this engagement exercise are a rich source of intelligence that will inform and help us focus communication and messages around forthcoming strategic pieces of work.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider the development of an ongoing communications and engagement programme that frames the Corporate Plan 2020-24 and whilst the Plan is formally adopted in October 2020, explore the potential for a commitment to an ongoing engagement as detailed delivery planning begins</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>This is a very important and part of an overall communications strategy on the Plan and on-going engagement. There are resourcing implications which we much address.</p> <p>However, It should be noted that this engagement exercise has demonstrated the importance of cross-team working in the council and that there is an opportunity to leverage skills we already have in existing services to address the resourcing implications of a potential commitment to ongoing engagement. Given the high importance assigned to the “Working in an Open and Inclusive Way” theme, this must be done to demonstrate our commitment.</p>

		This will be scoped further as part of our programme on increasing meaningful engagement and communication with everyone.
<p>RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to consider how to engage more effectively and involve staff in the development of the detailed delivery planning of the Corporate Plan 2020-24. Further consideration should also be given on how best to engage with staff that were not based at Milton Park, before the Covid-19 pandemic, as almost all staff respondents (96%) were once based at Milton Park. Consideration should also be given to innovative ways to engage and involve staff in detailed delivery planning whilst working remotely.</p>	Agree	<p>Cabinet recognises the importance of staff engagement and communications.</p> <p>We will be using the Council’s performance management framework and reporting system to link individual’s and team’s aims and objectives to the overall Themes in the Plan.</p> <p>Engagement with staff will continue as detailed delivery planning begins after the plan is formally adopted.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION Cabinet to ensure that this report and specifically the comments, ideas and project suggestions are reviewed in full by each service area as part of future service planning along with other relevant information to inform project delivery planning in order to allow the council to work with the insight the survey gives us and prioritise/sequence/target projects that are favourable in the public mind.</p>	Agree	<p>There will be a year 1, 2, and 3 delivery plan which sets out more detailed information to how the council will deliver the commitments within the Plan. The engagement findings will inform the delivery planning for year 1.</p> <p>Cabinet members will work with their portfolio areas to ensure the findings from this engagement have been translated into detailed delivery plans for year 1.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION The findings of this engagement exercise are shared with our key Oxfordshire partners, especially where comments received are in respect of responsibilities that are outside of the district councils influence. A short summary document</p>	Agree	<p>We will encourage all Cabinet members to share this document when it is produced with their Town & Parish Councils, to illustrate our commitment to greater transparency.</p>

<p>could be sent to Oxfordshire councils, businesses, community groups and towns and parishes with information specifically of interest to these groups. Drawing attention to the engagement findings actively in the spirit of working in an open and inclusive way.</p>		<p>Promotion of the full report and engagement findings will take place through all the channels we used to launch the engagement.</p>
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