

**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL  
THE COUNCIL PLAN AND RESIDENT AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform the Committee of the development of the forthcoming Council Plan and proposed resident engagement exercise.

**Information**

2. The Council is currently developing a new Council Plan 2021-25. Through the Council Plan, the County Council will set out a long-term strategic vision for Nottinghamshire, and identify those priority actions over the next four years that will move the County forward towards achieving our ambition for a healthy, prosperous and greener Nottinghamshire.
3. The Plan will show how we will work together within the Council and with partners to secure the best for our residents and businesses, delivering high-quality, sustainable services which are responsive, efficient and forward-looking.
4. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a shift in the operating context for the Council. The Council's efforts to adapt services and protect the most vulnerable have led to many changes in the way staff work and services are delivered. The Council Plan will demonstrate how we will capture the learning from the pandemic, and where changes have led to better ways of working and improvements for residents and businesses, how we will embed this improvement into our future operating model. The Plan will be developed alongside the Medium-Term Financial Strategy ensuring that we can deliver our priorities in a financially sustainable way.
5. The strategic context for the Council has also changed as national policy develops to address the socio-economic impacts of the coronavirus. The priorities in the Council Plan will be based on an analysis of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on Nottinghamshire's communities, ensuring that we direct our resources towards those activities that will make the most difference to residents and businesses. The Plan will also be informed by the Council's COVID Recovery Framework, which is due to be considered by Policy Committee in July. The Recovery Framework will set out the factors influencing the Council's activities and priorities over the remainder of the current year.
6. Communities in Nottinghamshire have experienced huge changes to their way of life over the course of the pandemic. The Council is keen to take this opportunity to understand from communities what they consider to be the key challenges and opportunities as we recover from the pandemic as well as what changes they would like to see for future generations. Connecting with communities in this way will be key to developing a shared vision for the County and ensuring that our efforts to recover from the pandemic help us towards achieving

the Nottinghamshire we want in the future.

7. The Council will therefore be undertaking an engagement exercise with residents and stakeholders in summer 2021. The engagement exercise will give residents the opportunity to inform the Council of the key impacts of COVID for them, and the priorities that they see for Nottinghamshire as a consequence. The results of the exercise will therefore critically inform the content and emphasis of the Council Plan, which is due to be considered by Committee in early Autumn 2021.
8. Every resident will be able to take part through a survey that will be available online or by collecting a printed copy from any of Nottinghamshire's libraries. Additional engagement activities will be designed to ensure the Council has a good understanding of the needs and priorities of all of Nottinghamshire's communities.

### **Other Options Considered**

9. There is an option not to engage on the Council Plan, however it is considered that engagement is important to ensure that the Council Plan reflects the needs and priorities of residents and businesses.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

10. To ensure that the long-term vision for the County and immediate recovery priorities in the Council Plan are informed by engagement with residents and stakeholders.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

12. It is requested that contingency funding of £50,000 is made available to cover the cost of this engagement exercise.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- 1) Agrees that an engagement exercise be undertaken with residents and stakeholders on the long-term vision and immediate recovery priorities for Nottinghamshire to inform the development of the Council Plan, with the costs of up to £50,000 to be met from the General Contingency budget subject to approval from the Finance Committee.

## **COUNCILLOR BEN BRADLEY, Leader of the Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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### **Constitutional Comments [CEH 24.05.2021]**

13. The recommendations fall within the remit of Policy Committee under its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SES 25/05/2021)**

14. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 12 of the report. The report proposes that contingency funding of £50,000 is made available to cover the cost of this engagement exercise. A request for an allocation from contingency is to be submitted to the Finance Committee.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All