

## Policy Committee – 11 February 2014

### Council Plan 2014 - 2018



Ward(s) affected: All

Report of the Corporate Head, Financial Management

#### 1. **Purpose of Report**

To present the Council Plan 2014-2018 proposals for approval.

#### 2. **Recommendation** Members are recommended to:

- 2.1. Approve the proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2018 attached at Appendix A and to give delegated authority to the Chief Executive to agree milestone dates for each action and performance indicators that will be used to measure progress.

#### 3. **Purpose of the Council Plan**

- 3.1. The Council Plan sets out the Council's agenda for improving service delivery to Craven communities, and organisational change. The updated Plan covers the period to 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2018. The plan focuses on the Council's top priorities for improvement. It does not include everything the Council will do.
- 3.2. The Plan sets out the Council's vision and priorities for the next 4 years. It details the actions and projects to be delivered by the Council against its priorities in delivering and improving services.

#### 4. **Council Plan Development**

- 4.1. The plan for 2014/2018 has been developed following a high level review of the current 2013/2017 Council Plan in consultation with CLT, Council Leadership Team, and Member VFM Group.
- 4.2. Specific consultation has not been undertaken on the Plan; however the 2014/2015 Budget Consultation included a question on the Council's current priorities. Consultees were asked 'Do you think these priorities are still the right ones for 2014/18?' Yes, No, Don't Know. The majority of respondents stated 'yes' that the current priorities of Affordable Housing, Enterprising Craven, Empowering Communities, Greener Craven and Financial Resilience were the right ones for 2014/2018 onwards.

#### 5. **Council Vision, Priorities and Actions**

- 5.1. The proposed vision, priorities and actions are noted at Appendix A of this report. Affording housing has now been integrated into the Enterprising Craven priority.
- 5.2. Members are recommended to approve the proposals for the Council Plan 2014-2017 attached at Appendix A and to give delegated authority to the Chief Executive to agree milestone dates for each action and performance indicators that will be used to measure progress.

# AGENDA ITEM 5

## 6. Implications

### 6.1. **Financial and Value for Money (vfm) Implications**

None arising directly from this report. However, the successful achievement of the Council Plan is dependent on the financial and other resources available to the Council. The Council aims to ensure that resources are targeted to deliver its priorities. The ongoing development of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) is informed by a process of service and financial planning and review. This will ensure that over time budgets are fully aligned to focus on the delivery of the priorities set out in the Council Plan.

### 6.2. **Legal Implications**

The Council Plan is subject to approval by Members in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

### 6.3. **Contribution to Council Priorities**

The Council Plan sets out the Council's intentions in relation to the delivery of its priorities.

### 6.4. **Risk Management**

None arising directly from this report.

### 6.5. **Equality Analysis**

It is considered that the Council Plan does not have the potential to cause negative impact or discriminate against different groups in the community based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

Equality issues arising from the implementation of each action contained in the Plan will be further considered as required by those responsible at implementation stage.

## 7. Consultations with Others

Community via Budget Consultation  
Corporate Leadership Team (CLT)  
Member Leadership Team  
Service Managers responsible for implementing Council Plan actions

## 8. Access to Information: Background Documents

Consultation Results  
Relevant minutes of CLT, Member Leadership Team and Member VFM Group

## 9. Author of the Report

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## 10. Appendices

Appendix A – Council Plan 2014 – 2018 Proposals

# Council Plan 2014-2018



## The Council's Vision

**'The Council's vision is for Craven to be a prosperous place with strong, vibrant and diverse communities'**

## The Council's Priorities for 2014/2018

Enterprising Craven

Greener Craven

Working with Communities

Financial Resilience

### COUNCIL PRIORITY – ENTERPRISING CRAVEN

#### What we will do

#### Address the impact of the recession

- Provide business support and advice services to increase the number and productivity of businesses
- Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages by implementing a range of initiatives to make them more attractive as places to live, work, visit and do business
- Work with Welcome to Yorkshire and other partners to maximise the benefit of the Tour De France Grand Depart Yorkshire 2014 to Craven's economy

#### Determine future land allocations for housing and employment across the District outside the National Park and secure affordable homes

- Finalise and adopt the Local Plan by December 2014 to determine sites for future development and protection
- Take advantage of opportunities to bid for appropriate funding to sustain economic growth through housing development and secure a minimum of 160 new affordable homes over 4 years

#### Facilitate the development of business and employment sites

- Develop the South Skipton Employment Zone
- Support the development of the former Middle School buildings in Ingleton as a centre for small and start-up businesses
- Work with the Threshfield Quarry Partnership to redevelop Threshfield Quarry
- Enable the expansion of Broughton Hall Business Park, Skipton

#### Improve infrastructure throughout the District

- Roll out broadband across Craven as a partner in the Superfast North Yorkshire project
- Work with local communities to regenerate and revitalise the stretch of the Leeds Liverpool Canal Corridor within Craven
- Work with partners to deliver the Skipton Flood Alleviation Scheme

**COUNCIL PRIORITY – GREENER CRAVEN****What we will do****Work to reduce energy consumption across Council operations**

- Implement the Climate Change Business Plan 2013 – 2016
- Install energy efficient and renewable technologies within Council owned buildings to reduce the Council's carbon emissions

**Work to reduce waste and increase recycling levels within the District**

- Promote the Council's commercial recycling scheme
- Explore the feasibility of introducing kerbside food waste collection in Craven

**COUNCIL PRIORITY – WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES****What we will do****Support local citizens to become more actively involved in their communities**

- Provide support for community based groups such as Friends of Aireville Park to undertake initiatives aimed at improving their local community

**Improve the opportunities available to residents of Greatwood and Horse Close, South Skipton**

- Work with partners to fund a specialist to tackle the causes of deprivation, improve the life chances of young people and the quality of life for residents living on Greatwood and Horse Close, South Skipton

**Increase partner and community involvement in service delivery**

- Continue to explore opportunities for shared services provision with the private, public, and community and voluntary sectors
- Work with community organisations who receive core funding from the Council to reduce their reliance on core funding, ensure they continue to be financially viable and explore opportunities for them to deliver Council services

**COUNCIL PRIORITY – FINANCIAL RESILIENCE****What we will do****Ensure the Council remains financially sustainable and has robust arrangements in place for securing value for money**

- Prepare a Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) that addresses the Council's financial pressures resulting from the economic climate and the cuts in government funding
- Implement the Council's Value For Money Framework and Action Plan in order to prioritise resources and ensure value for money in all services
- Ensure continuing financial transparency to maintain the ability of the Council's Leadership and the public to effectively scrutinise and challenge the financial position of the Council

**Implement major projects in the Asset Management Plan to support the achievement of value for money**

- Implement the agreed plan for the improvement of Skipton Waste Management Depot
- Implement the business plan to restore Skipton Town Hall as a sustainable and vibrant community venue

