

<b>25 June 2015</b>		<b>ITEM: 5</b>
<b>Corporate Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Corporate Priority Activity Plan 2015-16 and Corporate Scorecard Targets</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Non-key	
<b>Report of:</b> Councillor Victoria Holloway, Portfolio Holder for Central Services		
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Karen Wheeler, Head of Strategy & Communications		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Steve Cox, Assistant Chief Executive		
<b>This report is public</b>		

## **Executive Summary**

The vision and priorities for Thurrock were refreshed and agreed unanimously by Council on 28 January 2015. The Corporate Priority Activity Plan sets out what the council is going to deliver during 2015-16 to work towards achieving the priorities and how it will monitor progress as part of the corporate strategic planning process.

The Corporate Priority Activity Plan was agreed at Cabinet on 10 June 2015 and as such is here for noting by Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The corporate scorecard indicators and targets will be going back to Cabinet in July for sign off and therefore any feedback and comments from this Committee will be taken into consideration.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

**1.1 That the Corporate Priority Activity Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 be noted.**

**1.2 That the corporate scorecard indicators and targets as detailed in Appendix 2 be noted and any comments be made.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

**2.1** The community priorities were refreshed and agreed unanimously at Council on 28 January 2015. This outlined the council's vision and strategic priorities. This Corporate Priority Activity Plan is the council's overarching strategic document which details the areas upon which services will focus during 2015-16.

2.2 The vision for Thurrock as set out in the Community Strategy is:

Thurrock: A place of opportunity, enterprise and excellence, where individuals, communities and businesses flourish

Within this there are five strategic priorities:

- **Create** a great place for learning and opportunity
- **Encourage** and promote job creation and economic prosperity
- **Build** pride, responsibility and respect
- **Improve** health and well-being
- **Promote** and protect our clean and green environment

2.3 These five priorities are further defined by three related corporate objectives, which translate into service plans and other specialist strategic documents and plans.

2.4 There is a supplementary theme called “well run organisation” to represent the cross cutting themes of finance & governance, staff and customer which underpin the organisation.

2.7 The Corporate Scorecard 2015-16 will be the main form of monitoring the key performance indicators and the delivery of the Year 2 key deliverables will be monitored through a mid-year progress report.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

#### **3.1 Corporate Priority Activity Plan 2015/16 (Appendix 1)**

This Plan identifies the priority activities for 2015/16 to support the delivery of these corporate priorities. It should, however, be recognised that the delivery plan does not attempt to map out all the services (both statutory and non-statutory) which the council delivers. The detail for this will be found in individual service plans.

#### **3.2 How the Plan has been developed**

Each Directorate Management Team identified the key activities, within their own service areas, which were planned for 2015/16, which will enable the Council and our partners to meet the aims and objectives of the Community Strategy. The relationship between the plan and the relevant corporate priority and objective is identified at Appendix 1.

The Corporate Priority Activity Plan was agreed at Cabinet on 10 June 2015 and as such is here for noting by Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

#### **3.3 Monitoring Delivery and Reporting Performance**

The Corporate Scorecard (Appendix 2) will be reported to Cabinet on a monthly basis and to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee every

quarter. This will follow challenge and scrutiny at officer-level through the Performance Board and Directors Board.

In addition to this key performance indicator (KPI) based report, a “mid-year” progress report will be presented to Cabinet in December 2015 and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2016. This report will take a holistic look at progress against each corporate objective, combining the key performance indicators, a summary of related corporate risks and opportunities and the related activities as outlined in Appendix 1.

This format is recognising that the main monitoring method for the Corporate Plan is the corporate scorecard, which with approximately 50 pieces of data, cannot possibly cover all the work and progress that the council and our partners are making.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 As a lead partner in the delivery of the Community Strategy, it is vital that the council is clear about how it will meet its obligations and is transparent about how it is progressing. Appendix 1 sets out how it will achieve those objectives during 2015-16. Appendix 2 details how the council will monitor key performance areas related to those activities.

#### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 5.1 Consultation with partners took place on the refreshed corporate priorities including with the community and voluntary sector and other partners, through the Joint Strategic Forum and with local business representatives, through the Business Board. Both groups supported the proposed refresh.
- 5.2 The priority activities and corporate scorecard indicators have been consulted widely with officers.

#### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 The Corporate Priority Activity Plan 2015-16 sets out the strategic direction of the Council, and how it contributes to the delivery of the Community Strategy. These appendices set out how the Council will monitor the performance against those objectives during 2015-16.

## **7. Implications**

### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Michael Jones**  
**Strategic Resources Accountant**

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) provides the Council's financial detail. The "well run organisation" theme within the Corporate Priority Activity Plan summarises the key financial activities for 2015-16 and will be reported in line with the agreed monitoring method. The Corporate Scorecard includes some key financial indicators which will be monitored throughout the year to ensure the Council is working in line with the MTFS.

### **7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**  
**Deputy Head of Legal & Governance Services**

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report but such medium term planning will contribute to good corporate and financial governance as well as the prudent management of risk by the authority. The Corporate Scorecard will be monitored monthly at Cabinet and as such, during the year, if any legal implications arise from individual performance indicators, this will be monitored as appropriate at the time.

### **7.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Community Development & Equalities Manager**

The corporate priorities include high level objectives to ensure that the Council is addressing issues related to diversity and equality. The five strategic priorities are all relevant to the Council's statutory obligations relating to diversity and equality. The Priority Activity Plan and the Corporate Scorecard contain deliverables and measures that help determine the level of progress with meeting wider diversity and equality ambitions, including sickness, youth employment and attainment, independent living, vulnerable adults, volunteering. etc. The Corporate Scorecard will be monitored monthly at Cabinet and as such, during the year, if any diversity or equality implications arise from individual performance indicators, this will be monitored as appropriate at the time.

### **7.4 Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

There are no other significant implications.

**8. Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Refresh of Community Priorities, Council – January 2015  
<http://democracy.thurrock.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=4792&Ver=4>

**9. Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1: Corporate Priority Activity Plan 2015/16
- Appendix 2: Corporate Scorecard 2015/16

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