

Executive Board – 21st February 2023

Subject:	Strategic Council Plan 2023 - 2027
Corporate Director(s)/Director(s):	Mel Barrett – Chief Executive Ita O'Donovan – Director of Policy, Performance and Communications
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Mellen and Cllr Williams
Report author and contact details:	Elaine Fox, Senior Policy and Performance Officer: elaine.fox@nottinghamcity.gov.uk James Schrodel, Policy and Performance Manager: james.schrodel@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	James Rhodes, Head of Analysis and Insight
Subject to call-in:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Key Decision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Criteria for Key Decision:	
(a)	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £750,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision
and/or	
(b)	Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Type of expenditure:	<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital If Capital, provide the date considered by Capital Board Date: N/A – activities contained within the Strategic Council Plan are subject to individual and appropriate approval processes
Total value of the decision:	Nil. The Strategic Council Plan covers a summary of all Council activity and is deliverable within the medium-term financial plan (MTFP).
Wards affected:	All
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s):	Various – all consulted during January 2023
Relevant Council Plan Key Outcome:	
Clean and Connected Communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Working	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carbon Neutral by 2028	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safer Nottingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child-Friendly Nottingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Healthy and Inclusive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Moving	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improve the City Centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Better Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financial Stability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Serving People Well	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):	
The Strategic Council Plan aims to inform residents, partners and stakeholders of the Council's priorities for the next four years.	
The current Strategic Council Plan runs until the end of March 2023, and a revised Council Plan is required from April 2023 onwards.	
Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?	No.
Recommendation(s):	
1 That Executive Board recommends that the draft "Strategic Council Plan 2023-2027" is approved by Full Council on 6 th March 2023.	

1. **Reasons for recommendations**

- 1.1 The Strategic Council Plan (SCP) for 2021 – 2023 runs until the end of March 2023 and an updated plan is required.
- 1.2 The plan sets out our vision for improving Nottingham whilst keeping residents at the heart of everything the City Council does.
- 1.3 Our overall vision and ambition for the city are unchanged, but the wider context in which the organisation is operating has changed since 2019, including the implementation of the Improvement and Assurance Board and their subsequent awarding of statutory powers, significant real-terms funding reductions for local government, and the ongoing social and economic impacts of the ‘Cost of Living’ crisis.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 The Strategic Council Plan 2021-23 runs until the end of March 2023, and a new Council Plan is required for April 2023 onwards that is aligned with the four-year medium-term financial plan (MTFP).
- 2.2 The content of the 2023 -2027 Strategic Council Plan is based on divisional business plans and reflect the key priorities and statutory duties of the City Council. Deliverability of divisional plans, and subsequently the Strategic Council Plan, has been assessed and confirmed within the constraints of the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). N.B. Nottingham City Council will hold elections in May 2023 and the SCP will be revised in line with the requirements of the Majority Group’s election commitments and within the context of the MTFP after that date.
- 2.3 The draft SCP incorporates:
 - A clear vision for the city and City Council, and details of our strategic priorities for the next four years.
 - A robust policy framework to deliver against those priorities within the available resources.
 - Continued commitment to the high level outcomes outlined in the previous plan, with a series of strategic priorities and detailed, measurable activities underneath to support each outcome, so that services can be better held to account for their contribution to NCC’s overall strategic goals.
 - Continuation of our improved performance management processes at all levels through a “golden thread” that runs from the overall strategic aims and objectives at the top of the organisation, and the outcomes of the refreshed Council Plan, down to service plans and individual colleague appraisal objectives.
 - A strong link to financial performance, corporate risk and our workforce and corporate health, alongside more effective internal controls and management arrangements.
 - Greater clarity to employees, citizens, businesses and other key stakeholders on what our priorities are and where our resources are being directed over the next four years.
- 2.4 Alongside the plan, our comprehensive Performance Management Framework (PMF) underpins delivery of the plan. The PMF provides the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT), Leadership Group, the Improvement and Assurance Board and public with the necessary assurance that performance

management is being undertaken in a rigorous and transparent way, with appropriate oversight and reporting of the performance of the organisation in place. This assurance also includes regular review by our Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Audit Committee.

3. Other options considered in making recommendations

- 3.1 None. The current Strategic Council Plan for 2021 – 2023 expires in March 2023. A new Council Plan is required to bring together the Council's priorities and activities for the next four years aligned with the MTFP.

4. Consideration of Risk

- 4.1 Performance and risk are co-reported to Directorate Leadership Team meetings and to the Corporate Leadership Team. Activities within the plan are subject to individual risk review.

5. Best Value Considerations, including consideration of Make or Buy where appropriate

- 5.1 Best Value is a key component of the Strategic Council Plan, and decisions and priorities within it are subject to consideration of Best Value and Social Value. Best Value decisions are taken individually against the activities within the plan.

6. Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)

- 6.1 The Strategic Council Plan has been assessed as deliverable within constraints of the MTFP via the divisional business planning process.

Ross Brown, Section 151 Officer and Corporate Director for Finance and Resources, 13th Feb 2023

7. Legal colleague comments

- 7.1 In September 2021 the Council agreed a refreshed Strategic Council Plan for the period 2021/22 to 2022/23. The Council has a variety of statutory duties that it must fulfil by law. It cannot lawfully decide not to carry out those duties. Even where the Council is under a statutory duty to provide a service, there is often a discretion available to the Council about the level of service provision. For other activities, the Council provides services in pursuance of a statutory power rather than a duty, and though not bound to carry out those activities, decisions about them must be taken in accordance with the decision-making requirements of administrative law.

- 7.2 Members have a duty to ensure that the Council acts lawfully. The Council must set and maintain a balanced budget and must take steps to deal with any projected overspends and identify savings or other measures to bring budget pressures under control.

Beth Brown, Head of Legal, 13th Feb 2023

8. Other relevant comments

8.1 Relevant advice is sought in relation to the individual activities contained within the Strategic Council Plan.

9. Crime and Disorder Implications (If Applicable)

9.1 Not applicable.

10. Social value considerations (If Applicable)

10.1 Not applicable.

11. Regard to the NHS Constitution (If Applicable)

11.1 Not applicable.

12. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

12.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



An EIA is not required because:

The individual activities contained within the Strategic Council Plan are subject to an EIA where applicable.

13. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

13.1 Has the data protection impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



A DPIA is not required because:

The activity contained within the Strategic Council Plan does not include any data which is not already in the public domain, or is not suitable for publication.

14. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA)

14.1 Has the carbon impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



A CIA is not required because:

The individual activities contained within the Strategic Council Plan are reviewed alongside the Council's Carbon Neutral 2028 Action Plan.

15. List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)

15.1 Nottingham City Council Plan 2023-27

16. Published documents referred to in this report

16.1 Nottingham City Council Together for Nottingham Plan

16.2 Reports to and minutes of Full Council Held on 13th Sep 2021