

Item No. 7.1	Classification: Open	Date: March 28 2007	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Corporate Plan (Policy Framework)	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Deputy Chief Executive	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers the council's corporate plan (appendix 1) and the recommendations of March 20 2007 executive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The corporate plan provides the medium-term strategic direction for the council setting out our vision, aims and strategic priorities (as outlined in Southwark 2016). The medium term financial strategy, which supports the delivery of the corporate plan was agreed by the executive in September 2006. On February 13 the executive agreed the council's policy and resourcing strategy (revenue and capital), which aligns the council's corporate plan with the medium term financial strategy and budget for 2007/08. This aims to allow members to support, fund and deliver their medium term objectives by matching resources to policy priorities.
3. The performance Indicators and project milestones contained within the corporate plan (which forms part of the performance management framework) will form the basis of quarterly performance reports to the executive, enabling the council to track progress on delivery of the corporate plan. The corporate plan contains the draft targets for 2007/10 which form part of the council's corporate basket, and therefore are subject to audit.
4. On December 11 and February 7 the draft corporate plan was presented to overview and scrutiny committee, and on December 12 the corporate plan was presented to the executive.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. The corporate plan (appendix I) has been updated following further consultation and the comments and amendments made by the executive and overview and scrutiny committee.
6. This paper therefore presents a corporate plan for consideration prior to final agreement at council assembly in March 2007. The corporate plan forms part of the council's policy framework.

Timetable and Key Milestones

7. Executive are reminded that the key milestone for policy and resources strategy was the agreement of the budget for 2007/8 on 21 February 2007 when council approved the budget and council tax.

Community Impact Statement

8. This report gives an indication of the likely projects the council will undertake over the forthcoming year. No decisions have yet been taken as a result of this report and therefore there is no direct community impact at this stage. It is however recognised that in drawing up the corporate plan the impact on the community of any potential change in service design, outcomes or access will need to be addressed and identified in future executive reports that follow on from the corporate plan decision.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Finance Director

9. As stated in paragraph two, the medium term financial strategy is aligned to the corporate plan and provides a framework for the budget setting process. The projects and actions within the plan reflect the outcomes of the agreement of the budget at council assembly on February 21 2007.

Director of Legal and Democratic Services

10. The corporate plan must comply with section 4 of the Local Government (Best Value) Performance Plans and Reviews Order 1999 and must contained all the matter specified in sub paragraph (a) to (e) of article 3 of the order. Under the Local Government Act 1999 all local authorities are required to publish an annual Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) by the 30 June. Statutory Instrument (SI) No. 2002/305 - *The Local Government (Best Value) Performance Plans and Reviews Amendment and Specified Dates Order* reduced the previously prescriptive requirements, enabling councils to develop a document with an internal focus in line with internal planning cycles. The SI also enables councils to publish the corporate plan before the final deadline of 30 June.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy	Town Hall	Cathy Doran, ext 54396
Corporate Plan 2006/7	Town Hall	Matthew Wallbridge, ext 57379

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Corporate Plan

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Joe Brady, Head of Performance & Efficiency	
Report Author	Matthew Wallbridge, Senior Corporate Planning and Performance Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	09/03/2007	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Director of Legal and Democratic Services	Yes	Yes
Finance Director	Yes	Yes
All Strategic Directors	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services	12/03/2007	