

## Corporate Statement

Cabinet	<b>19 September 2019</b>
Report Author	<b>Chief Executive</b>
Portfolio Holder	<b>Cllr Robert Bayford - Leader of the Council</b>
Status	<b>For Decision</b>
Classification:	<b>Unrestricted</b>
Key Decision	<b>No</b>
Reasons for Key	<b>Budget and Policy Framework</b>
Previously Considered by	<b>Cabinet - 25 July 2019</b> <b>Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 27 August 2019</b>
Ward:	<b>Whole District</b>

### **Executive Summary:**

The Constitution requires that the Council's Corporate Statement to be adopted by Full Council in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

This report details the proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives for 2019-2023.

### **Recommendation(s):**

That Cabinet recommend the report and the proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives for 2019-2023 (with any amendments) to Full Council on the 10 October 2019.

### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Financial and Value for Money</b>	The detailed objectives within the Core Business Objectives will need to be deliverable in line with the Council's budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy.
<b>Legal</b>	The Constitution requires that the Council's Corporate Statement be adopted by Full Council in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, which provides the Overview and Scrutiny Panel with an opportunity to comment on the draft proposals before they are finalised by Cabinet and submitted to Council.

<b>Corporate</b>	The Council is responsible for a wide range of statutory and discretionary services and through the proposed new priorities it will take an outcome focussed approach to find the right way to deliver its services.								
<b>Equality Act 2010 &amp; Public Sector Equality Duty</b>	<p>Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy &amp; maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage &amp; civil partnership.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 801 1401 1061"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>An initial Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and there is no reason to state at this time that the content of the proposed Core Business Objectives will negatively impact on any groups with protected characteristics. The Core Business Objectives focus on improving the quality of life in Thanet for all. Opportunities to further the aims of the Duty will be investigated during equality impact analysis of individual projects, plans and strategies arising from the priorities.</p> <p>If the proposed Core Business Objectives are approved the Equalities Impact Assessment will be updated following the Overview and Scrutiny Panel, to ensure that the Core Business Objectives address the needs of all Thanet's diverse community.</p>	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.		Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	x	Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it		Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	
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1. **Introduction and Background**
  - 1.1. The Council's previous Corporate Plan was published in 2015 and covers the period of 2015 – March 2019.
  - 1.2. Since the publication of the 2015-19 Corporate Plan, the Council has faced and continues to face significant challenges, it is considered timely to reset the Council's Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives for the next four years.

## **2. The Current Situation**

- 2.1. The Council's proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives set out the direction of travel for the Council over the next four years laying the strong foundations that will benefit, shape and grow the district.
- 2.2. The Council is aware that the communities in Thanet are changing and there are increasing demands for local services. At the same time, the Council is also aware of the many challenges facing local people and businesses. Therefore, the Council has set its Core Business Objectives to enable it to plan for the changing needs and to meet the increasing financial challenge ahead as core government grant funding is reduced to nil.
- 2.3. By taking this approach, the Council's resources will be focused on what matters the most, service delivery will be strengthened and both staff and partners will all be working towards a common goal of - ensuring prosperity and improved quality of life for our residents and the business community.
- 2.4. The largest challenge the Council faces over the next four years is to deliver further improvements to its services with reduced funding and resources. This will require the Council to work with its partners and residents to minimise the impact of the challenge ahead and manage the expectations on the Council within its limited resources.
- 2.5. The proposed Core Business Objectives set out in Annex 1 will be delivered through focused operational service plans, supported by more detailed plans and strategies which set out service specific projects, actions and targets.

## **3. Summary of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel Recommendations**

- 3.1. Members agreed to request that Cabinet sets up a Member working group to review proposed detailed plans for implementing the vision in the Corporate Statement for 2019-2023.
- 3.2. The Panel agreed to add the wording "for the wider benefit of the town and district," to the statement on the Port of Ramsgate and the Royal Harbour (under Growth).
- 3.3. Members agreed to add the wording "work to be carbon neutral by 2030" to the statement under the Environment.
- 3.4. Members agreed that the wording that "further improve the efficiency of emptying schedules including the maximising of smart bins" be added to the statement on Environment in relation to waste collection.
- 3.5. The Panel agreed to add the wording "improve collaboration with KCC to explore opportunities for introducing a park and ride scheme in Thanet" to statements under the Environment.
- 3.6. The Panel agreed to add the wording "including additional social housing" to the statement on work to prevent homelessness (under the section on Communities).

- 3.7. Members agreed to add the wording 'the council's intention to take back management' "subject to following procedures the council takes back direct control of its housing stock (under the section on Communities).
- 3.8. The Panel agreed to add the wording "work with the Boundaries Commission to ensure that the number of councillors is appropriate to the council's size and needs."
- 3.9. Members agreed to add the wording "high-quality housing and energy efficiency to meet the needs" to the statement on housing.

#### **4. Options**

- 4.1. To amend the report and the proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives for 2019-2023 and recommend the revised Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives be submitted to Full Council on the 10 October 2019.
- 4.2. To accept the report and the proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives as drafted and recommend it be submitted to Full Council on the 10 October 2019.

#### **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1. If recommended by Cabinet the report and the proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives will be presented to Full Council on the 10 October 2019.
- 5.2. If approved by Full Council the Core Business Objectives will be translated directly into the operational Service Plans for 2019-23. This will enable each Core Business Objective to be monitored through the Council's Performance Management Framework.

Contact Officer:	Carol Cook, Policy Officer
Reporting to:	Madeline Homer, Chief Executive

### Annex List

Annex 1	Proposed new Corporate Statement and supporting Core Business Objectives 2019-2023
Annex 2	30 July Member Briefing - comments and responses

### Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Draft Equalities Impact Assessment	<a href="mailto:Carol.cook@thanet.gov.uk">Carol.cook@thanet.gov.uk</a>
Cabinet 13 June 2019: Approach to Corporate Business Planning	<a href="https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/documents/s64419/Approach%20to%20Corporate%20Business%20Planning.pdf">https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/documents/s64419/Approach%20to%20Corporate%20Business%20Planning.pdf</a>
Cabinet 25 July 2019: Corporate Statement	<a href="https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&amp;MId=5212&amp;Ver=4">https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&amp;MId=5212&amp;Ver=4</a>
Overview and Scrutiny Panel 27 August 2019: Corporate Statement	<a href="https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=119&amp;MId=5305&amp;Ver=4">https://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=119&amp;MId=5305&amp;Ver=4</a>

### Corporate Consultation

<b>Legal</b>	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance
<b>Finance</b>	Chris Blundell, Head of Financial Services