



TITLE OF CONSULTATION: COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2024

OFFICER REQUESTING: SIMON COPLEY – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
MANAGER & DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 A decision is required as to whether to approve the Council Plan 2020-2024 or defer the decision until the next Full Council meeting can take place.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 It is recommended that:

- (i) A decision is made as to whether to approve the Council Plan 2020-2024 or defer the decision until the next Full Council meeting can take place.
- (ii) Consultation is required with the Leader of Council, who may wish to consult with other Group Leaders, and the Chair of Council.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 It is necessary to make a decision as to whether the Council Plan 2020-2024 is approved as a decision taken through the Covid-19 (Urgency Powers) procedure, or whether the decision should be deferred to be taken by members at the next Full Council meeting.

3.2 At the Policy and Resources Committee on 19 March 2020 members voted 4 in favour and 2 against recommending the approval of the Council Plan to Full Council. The Liberal Group had presented their suggested amendments to this meeting but these were not moved as amendments, given there was to be opportunity for this at Full Council.

3.3 Considerable engagement has taken place in developing the Council Plan, including submissions from political groups, two member workshops, a staff workshop and a staff questionnaire.

3.4 There is a need for a strategic document to guide council business. Once the Council Plan has been approved, more detailed documents need to be prepared and this work cannot be commissioned until the Plan is in place. The performance framework could take up to 6 months to prepare, so delaying approval of the Council Plan could result in a year's delay in getting this framework in place.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 There is a risk that if the Council Plan 2020-2024 is not approved at this time, future planning and priority setting within the organisation will not be possible and progress following the end of the public health emergency will occur more slowly.
- 4.2 Conversely, there is a risk that if the Plan is approved during the current emergency situation, it will not be possible for open and full debate to occur between all members, particularly given that not all political groups are supportive of the proposed Council Plan 2020-2024.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
Any financial implications arising from the implementation of the Council Plan 2020-2024 will be highlighted when detailed proposals are brought forward to Members for approval.
 - b) Legal
Any legal implications arising from the implementation of the Council Plan 2020-2024 will be highlighted when detailed proposals are brought forward to Members for approval.
 - c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental and Climate Change, Crime & Disorder)
Any specific implications arising from the implementation of the Council Plan 2020-2024 will be highlighted when detailed proposals are brought forward to Members for approval.

6.0 MONITORING OFFICER ADVICE

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| Consultation is required with the Leader and the Chair of Council. |
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7.0 CONSULTATION RECORD

According to the Constitution, under urgency powers, decisions usually taken by the Council and its committees are taken by the CEO following consultation with the appropriate elected members.

The appropriate elected members are:

- The Leader of the Council
- The Chair of the appropriate committee, for matters relating to that specific committee¹
- Relevant Ward member(s), if any, for matters of particular relevance to that ward²

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| Name of consultee | Cllr Duncan - Leader |
| Defer to the next meeting of Full Council. This is not urgently required. It is only right and proper that the Council Plan is given full democratic scrutiny. I have been able to discuss this with Michael Cleary (Chairman of Council), Steve Arnold (Deputy Leader of Council; Ryedale First Independent group leader), Di Keal (Liberal Democrat group leader) and John Clark (Liberal group leader) who agreed with this approach. | |
| Date consultation completed | 31-03-20 |

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| Name of consultee | Cllr Cleary – Chair of Council |
| The Chair of Council's role was to give advice on process, rather than substance, and he agreed that as this was not an urgent item and it would benefit from the input of all members it did not need to be dealt with now, but held over until Full Council could meet. | |
| Date consultation completed | 31-03-20 |

8.0 DECISION

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| Decision of the CEO based on consultation | Decision deferred until the next meeting of Full Council. |
| Date | 01-04-20 |

¹ "Chairman of the appropriate Committee" refers to committee specific matters and does not mean that all Committee Chairs will be consulted on everything

² "Relevant Ward Member(s), if any" refers to ward specific matters and does not mean that all Members will be consulted on everything