



REPORT TO:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	7 JULY 2011
REPORT OF THE:	HEAD OF TRANSFORMATION CLARE SLATER
TITLE OF REPORT:	ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11 – DELIVERING THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the committee with the content of the Councils Annual Report of delivery against its priorities.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the committee considers the content of the Annual Report for 2010/11 and note the challenges for 2011/12.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Annual Report is a key element of the Councils performance management framework. The intended audience for the annual report is the public.

REPORT

4.0 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

4.1 The Council adopted a set of priorities in March 2009 in the Council Plan 2009-13.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT

5.1 The Council Plan is the key policy statement of the Council and is complimented by other plans such as the Financial Strategy and Service Delivery Plans.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Council engages with the communities it represents throughout the year and the intelligence gathered informs the delivery of the Council Plan and the annual budget process.

7.0 REPORT DETAILS

7.1 The Council has adopted the following priorities in the Council Plan 2009 -13:

Aim 1: To meet housing need

Strategic Objectives:

1. To change and add to housing stock to meet the local housing needs
2. To support people to access a suitable home or remain in an existing home

Aim 2: To create the conditions for economic success

Strategic Objectives:

3. Place of opportunity – economic structure and supporting infrastructure
4. Opportunity for people – increasing wage and skills levels

Aim 3: To have a high quality clean and sustainable environment

Strategic Objectives:

5. Reducing waste and CO2 emissions
6. Planning to adapt to climate change
7. To maintain the quality of our local environment

Aim 4: To have safe and active communities

Strategic Objectives:

- 8a. Safe Villages and Towns
- 8b. Healthy Villages and Towns

Aim 5: To transform the Council

Strategic Objectives:

9. To understand our communities and meet their needs
10. To develop the leadership, capacity and capability to deliver future improvements

Performance Management

7.2 Progress in delivering the councils priorities is reported quarterly to the Policy and Resources Committee. These reports are complimented by the Revenue Budget Monitoring reports also submitted to the Policy and Resources committee. These reports are available on the Councils website and contribute to the delivery of the transparency agenda for local government.

7.3 The Annual Report for 2010/11 is attached at Annex A and summarises the Council's delivery against it priorities. The summary accounts will be included following the completion of the external audit of the accounts.

Challenges for 2011/12

7.4 **Aim 1: To meet housing need**

a) **Affordable Housing Delivery**

The Government's new approach of an affordable housing framework has the potential to make developing affordable homes in the future much harder due to the scarcity of resources. The Council needs to take full advantage of the New Homes Bonus and at the same time ensure empty homes in the district do not affect the Council's ability to attract income.

b) **Housing Benefit**

As part of its wider package of welfare reform, the Government is introducing a number of changes in respect to the way housing benefit is to be paid in future years. These changes have the potential to have a notable impact on levels of homelessness within the District and have significant implications for the Council

- in terms of both the approach to meet the challenge and the likely cost incurred.
- c) **Bridge House**
A new supported accommodation facility is required for homeless people in Ryedale, replacing Bridge House. The funding for the support staff at Bridge House runs out in September 2011
 - d) **Preventing Homelessness**
The government has increased funding through the homeless Prevention Grant in acknowledgement that homelessness may continue to increase over the coming year.
 - e) **Private Sector Renewal**
The Council has always had an extensive grants programme but there is no allocation for 2011/12 and this will affect the Council's ability to award grants and loans. Ryedale is the only authority in North Yorkshire to make capital resources available for continuing the grants and loans schemes. These and related issues will be considered by the Joint Commissioning Group when it begins its examination during 2011 of private sector housing and support for independent living.

Aim 2: Creating the conditions for economic success

- a) The planning application for the Brambling Fields junction improvement scheme has been submitted to NYCC. The legal agreements which enable the development to proceed should be signed September/October 2011 with construction starting on site in January 2012 and the improved junction opening autumn 2012.
- b) Schemes to improve the public areas and streets within Malton Town Centre will be brought forward to help encourage visitors and trade and boost the local economy.
- c) The LDF Core Strategy will be published, following a decision by Council, in September 2011.
- d) The Council is embarking on a project to ascertain community and business aspirations for Next Generation Broadband across Ryedale, in partnership with NYnet.
- e) The Council are in the process of purchasing Stanley Harrison House to provide town centre offices in Norton for RVA and CAB with potential for co-location with other public sector services. The facility will also add to parking provision available close to the bus and rail stations.
- f) Maximising support for enterprise and industry in the area through the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership in an environment with very little funding and ensuring a representative voice for business interests in Ryedale.
- g) An Economic Strategy for Ryedale will be prepared.

Aim 3: To have a high quality clean and sustainable environment

- a) Introduction of kerbside recycling for plastics and cardboard.
- b) Utilise the new transfer station for dry recyclables (glass, paper, cardboard) on Showfield Lane, lowering costs and generating savings for the Council.
- c) The Climate Change Strategy will be refreshed in line with government guidance.

Aim 4: To have safe and active communities

- a) A Sports Strategy for Ryedale will be prepared.
- b) Further investment in the sport and recreation infrastructure.
- c) Maintaining the low levels of crime in Ryedale.
- d) Delivery of the Community Safety Plan through the Safer Ryedale Partnership, with diminishing resources.

Aim 5: To Transform the Council

- a) Going for Gold – achieving savings of £700k through the redesign of services, shared services and increased income generation, taking advantage of any opportunities which arise.
- b) Realise efficiencies from IT investment.
- c) Preparing for the implications of new legislation such as the Localism Bill, Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, Welfare Reform Bill and the Health and Social Care Bill.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The following implications have been identified:

- a) Financial
There are no new financial implications in considering this report which are not accounted for in the Financial Strategy.
- b) Legal
There are no significant legal implications arising from this report
- c) Other
There are no significant other implications arising from this report.

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Background Papers:

Council Plan 2009 -13

Delivering the Council Plan Reports – Reported quarterly to Policy and Resources Committee

Background Papers are available for inspection at:

www.ryedale.gov.uk