

<b>Committee:</b> Ordinary Council	<b>Date:</b> 15 March 2023
<b>Subject:</b> Corporate Strategy 2020-2025 Annual Review	<b>Wards Affected:</b> All
<b>Report of:</b> Jonathan Stephenson, Chief Executive	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report Author:</b> Name: Sarah Bennett, Director of Customer & Data Insight Telephone: 01277 312500 E-mail: sarah.bennett@brentwood.gov.uk	<b>For Decision</b>

### Summary

This report updates members on progress of the Corporate Strategy 2020–2025 and presents an annual review document for approval.

### Recommendation(s)

**Members are asked:**

- R1. To approve the Draft Corporate Strategy 2022/23 Annual Review as set out in Appendix A.**
- R2. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader to make any minor amendments to Appendix A including decisions of other committees during March 2023.**

### Main Report

#### **Introduction and Background**

1. The Corporate Strategy 2020-2025 was agreed at Ordinary Council on 22 January 2020, (Min.353 refers). The Corporate Strategy sets out the council's ambitions for a five-year period.
2. The Corporate Strategy identifies five priority themes:
  - a) Growing our economy
  - b) Protecting our environment
  - c) Developing our communities
  - d) Improving housing

- e) Delivering an efficient and effective council

### **Issue, Options and Analysis of Options**

4. The Corporate Strategy Annual Review (attached as Appendix A) outlines the council's progress and achievements against its 2022/23 key objectives. This has been achieved despite significant pressures associated with the cost-of-living crisis.
5. The document also highlights achievements over and above the key 2022/23 objectives.
6. It is intended that, each year, the strategy document is refreshed to review progress against the key objectives for the previous year and updated for the forthcoming year. Objectives for 2023/24 will be reported to the appropriate committee in the new municipal year.
7. It is recommended to Members that they approve the draft Corporate Strategy Annual Review 2022/23, and the document is published via the Council's website. A small number of hard copies will be available, on request.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

8. The Council is required to have and publish a Corporate Strategy.
9. The Council requires sound strategic direction to deliver its objectives.

### **References to Corporate Plan**

10. The Corporate Strategy Annual Review provides an update to the Corporate Strategy 2020-25 and ensures that objectives and achievements are adequately aligned.

### **Implications**

#### **Financial Implications**

**Name/Title: Tim Willis, Interim Director of Resources Tel/Email: 01277 312500/tim.willis@brentwood.gov.uk**

11. The Corporate strategy has been aligned to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as well as the 2023/24 budget. Adequate resources have been set aside to deliver the key objectives. In year budget monitoring is carried out to ensure budgets are being met and in line with the Corporate Strategy.

## **Legal Implications**

**Name & Title: Andrew Hunkin, Director of People & Governance**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/andrew.hunkin@brentwood.gov.uk**

12. The Council, in making decisions to implement the Corporate Strategy and the key priorities, will ensure that any decision making complies with the legal and governance requirements necessary to implement the key priorities of the within the Corporate Strategy.

## **Economic Implications**

**Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Place**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk**

13. Growing the economy is identified as a key priority within the Corporate Strategy. Key objectives to achieve this priority are identified and monitored, along with other priorities that have economic benefits if objectives are achieved. It is important that the Council identify and monitor objectives to achieve economic growth for the borough. The annual review sets out several achievements in 2022/23 to support local businesses and progress development proposals.

**Other Implications** (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

14. The Council, when implementing the key priorities identified in the Corporate Strategy, will have due regard to the public sector equality duty as laid out in s149 of the Equalities Act 2010.

## **Background Papers**

None

## **Appendices to this report**

- Appendix A: Draft Corporate Strategy Annual Review 2022/23