

Planning Committee

5th August 2021

4

Medium Term Plan

We are now one month into the four-year life of the new Council. I am recommending to all committees that in the coming months we agree a Plan to reflect the aims and aspirations of the council for its four-year life. I do not propose that this is a financial document but allows councillors to put their views forward on subjects that will reflect their priorities and ambitions for the Council and addresses the questions: -

- What changes to the current services provided should be made?
- What level of precept should we be aiming for?

In summary it is a question of what level of influence the Council wishes to have in the life of the City and its residents.

It would be beneficial for the Plan to be completed by the end of October allowing the financial implications to be included in the Estimates for the next financial year. We would also be able to review the Mission Statement and corporate objectives in line with the Plan. I have set the timetable below with that in mind.

As with all organisations the Plan will need to be flexible particularly to reflect any changes in circumstances caused by external influences.

I therefore suggest the following timetable

July	Each Committee includes an agenda item allowing Councillors to bring forward ideas and discuss their priorities. Where possible the Committee should come to a consensus whether to support individual views. Outside of the Committee meetings any Councillor with views can discuss with, or note them to, the Town Clerk.
September	Each Committee to review an outline of the document with the outcome from the Committee discussions included, and make further comments and views for incorporation into the final document.
October	The Committees review a final draft of the Plan document, which will then be submitted for full Council approval.

In our briefing on the 5th July it was suggested that we should have full council briefings in September rather than consider the Plan at Committee meetings; and the view of the Committee on this proposal is requested.

Recommendations

That the committee considers its service priorities during the next four years and recommends its preferred option for consideration of the Plan in September.

Roger Gazzard
Town Clerk