

**TITLE OF REPORT: ITEM REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:  
21 JULY 2015 – CORPORATE PLAN 2016-2021**

*The following is an extract from the Draft Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 21 July 2015.*

**34. CORPORATE PLAN 2016 - 2021**

The Head of Policy and Community Services presented the report entitled Corporate Plan 2016 – 2021.

She reminded Members that the original Corporate Plan had been for a 10 year period whereas the proposed Corporate Plan would last 5 years.

She explained that the Plan emphasised partnership working and drew attention to Paragraph 8.3 of the report which detailed some of the recent changes that the proposed Corporate Plan reflected and explained that the 5 year term would align with the Medium term Financial Strategy.

Members were concerned that, although the bullet points seemed reasonably SMART, the following narrative contained several distinct ideas, which probably should be listed in the bullet points.

They considered that there was little mention of rural areas within the Plan, particularly within Objective 2.

Members felt that projects being considered for the future should be included rather than including those that had already been started, such as the regeneration of John Barker Place

There was some discussion that the diversity of people in North Hertfordshire (10.8%) was not reflected in the Councillors representing those people and that greater education regarding the role of Councillors was required to encourage diversity amongst candidates..

The Portfolio Holder for Policy, Transport and Green Issues stated that the aim was that the narrative amplify the objective.

The Head of Policy and Community Services acknowledged that, whilst the Plan referred to, for example, Community Assets, the Council's support for rural communities in particular should be mentioned.

The Chief Executive informed Members that the Council had a role to play in encouraging participation, but that it was for political parties to choose their candidates.

***RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:***

- (1) That due to the various redrafts of the document affecting the flow of the document, consideration be given to rewriting parts of the Corporate Plan 2016 – 2021 to aid clarity;
- (2) That consideration be given to whether the document is forward looking enough due to the inclusion of projects that have already been started.

***REASON FOR DECISION:*** To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment of the Corporate Plan 2016 – 2021 prior to consideration by Cabinet.

**[NOTE: The report to which this referral relates is Item 9 on this agenda.]**

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