



**Full Council Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Draft Belper Town Council Corporate Plan**

**For Approval**

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To present for final approval the Belper Town Council Draft Corporate Plan

**2.0 Background Information**

2.1 At their Full Council meeting held July 2021 Members approved the Consultation draft of the Corporate Plan which underwent public and stakeholder consultation from September 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 to October 15<sup>th</sup> 2021. It is recommended that Members may want to revisit that report which sets out the very considerable amount of research, analysis and consultation which went in the drafting the plan.

2.2 The Consultation approach was overseen by the Communications Working Group with the overall approach as set out at Appendix A. brief the consultation was as follows :

- Direct contact with 39 key and local Stakeholders
- An article in the Council's newsletter
- Publicity on the Council's website and social media
- Public Meetings upon request

A press release was prepared but it was decide not to issue it because there was little likelihood of the press covering the story

**Responses**

2.3 There were 3 anonymous responses directly from the public which the Council were very pleased to receive:

- One response was overall very complimentary
- One response was overall complimentary but believes that the Council should do more to tackle the climate emergency
- One response was less complimentary and mentioned commitments which the Council had made but not achieved so was not actually a comment on the plan itself.

2.4 There were 4 responses from stakeholders :

- The acting Chief Executive of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership provided supportive comments and provided a number of contacts for people /



organisations which the Council could work with to help deliver the plan, as well as the LEP's own Growth Hub

- The Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust were also complimentary but believed that the Council should consider making specific commitments regarding the future of the Belper Mills and the Clusters area of the Town.

- The North Mill Trust helpfully provided both supportive comments and a proposal for how the Council and the Trust could work together on some of the aims and objectives set out in the plan.

-Ashbourne Town Council responded by saying "Belper corporate plan is extremely well thought out and will act as a catalyst between all interested partners and the community"

2.4 Having considered the feedback officers advise that the plan document itself does not require amendment but that it would be very useful to liaise with the 4 stakeholders on the suggestions they have raised as a springboard to future partnership working arrangements, some of which are already ongoing.

2.5 Disappointingly there were no responses from either Amber Valley Borough Council or Derbyshire County Council

### **3.0 Delivering the Plan**

3.1 It will be for Members to decide how the individual themes are to be overseen including the role of Council Committees, or whether individual lead Members will be appointed for each theme. In order to assist Members with this task the following suggestions are made.

3.2 That one or possibly two lead Members are appointed to oversee the delivery for each theme with their role to include:

- Working with officers on the delivery of projects
- Representing the Council on relevant outside bodies and Working Groups
- Ensuring that the Council's focus is on the agreed actions within the Plan and to act as gatekeepers for ideas and suggestions coming forward which are not within the remit of the plan.

3.2 That the current Committee structure and working groups are reviewed in order to ensure that organizational arrangements support the delivery of the plan and that distractions are kept to a minimum.

3.3 That new Corporate Plan implications section is incorporated in to committee reports to ensure that any future ideas for projects and initiatives can demonstrate that they support the Corporate Plan aims and objectives.



<p><b>Legislation</b> Section 2(1) of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers Local Authorities to do anything they consider likely to promote or improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area.</p>
<p><b>Accessibility Implications</b> - <i>Have the recommendations in this report taken in to account the need for Council services and information to be accessible for people with a Disability and if so how is this illustrated.</i></p> <p>There are specific references in the plan to the Council's commitments on Accessibility, notably the delivery of the Council's Accessibility Strategy.</p> <p>The Caring Belper theme looks specifically at how the Council supports a fully inclusive community</p>
<p><b>Climate Emergency Implications</b> - <i>Demonstrate any environmental consequences and how these would be addressed</i></p> <p>There are specific references in the plan to the way in which the Council will respond to the Climate Emergency and work towards Zero Carbon emissions</p>
<p><b>Financial Implications</b> None directly although as initiatives are developed some resource requirements will be identified for consideration by the Council.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation(s)</b> It is recommended that the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>i ) Maintains its support and approval of the Corporate Plan</b></li><li><b>ii ) Considers the suggestions made in section 3 of this report to help ensure that delivery of the plan is supported effectively</b></li><li><b>iii ) Tasks the relevant officers with contacting the stakeholders referred to in section 4 to discuss partnership working opportunities</b></li></ul>
<p><b>Reasons for recommendation(s)</b> The Corporate Plan is an important document which demonstrates how the Council will work for the well being of the people of Belper</p>