

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/2011 REPORT NO. **108A**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Council 26th January 2011

REPORT OF:

Chief Executive

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Agenda – Part: 1

Item: 7

Subject: Council Strategy *Enfield – A Fairer Future for All*

Wards: All

**Cabinet Member consulted:
Cllr Achilles Georgiou**

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the new Council Strategy, 'Enfield – A Fairer Future for All', to Council for agreement. The Strategy sits alongside the Business Plan, and sets out the vision for the organisation for the next four years. It details the Council's values and sets out each of the Council's strategic aims and associated priorities, linked to the administration's manifesto commitments.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

- 2.1. Consider and agree the Council Strategy, 'Enfield – A Fairer Future for All'
- 2.2. Agree that the Council Strategy be used to inform the Council's budget setting process

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In May 2010, the Labour party won the local elections in Enfield, and formed the administration. This change in political control has led to a review of the Council's vision and strategic aims, and has resulted in the development of the Council Strategy and a reconfiguration of the Business Plan.
- 3.2 Local government is going through a period of major upheaval and change, with the new coalition government and major cuts to funding. The Strategy details what Enfield, as a Council, will stand for, and what sort of Council it wants to be.
- 3.3 The current changes will be challenging for the Council, but also represent an opportunity, and this Strategy aims to ensure that the Council is well placed to make the best of the opportunities available.

An effective Council Strategy is vital for ensuring that the organisation has a clear vision and direction, so it can achieve its aspirations for the Borough.

- 3.4 Organised around the administration's three strategic aims, Fairness for All, Growth and Sustainability and Strong Communities, the Strategy sets out the medium term direction for both the Council and the Borough.
- 3.5 It sets out the Council's key values, of One Team, Customer First, Achieving Excellence and Empowering People. Embedding these values will ensure the organisation can meet the challenges of the future.
- 3.6 The Strategy also identifies the key issues Enfield faces, both as a Borough, and as a Council. These include demographic change, funding cuts, changes to the way the Council works with partners and the inequalities present in the Borough.
- 3.7 Beneath each of the three strategic aims are a number of priorities, which set out what the Council wants to achieve for the Borough. The detail of how these priorities will be delivered is contained in the Business Plan, which will be finalised following approval of the Council's budget and sit alongside the Council Strategy.
- 3.8 Finally, the Strategy provides a snapshot of the current key plans and strategies that will contribute to the delivery of each of the strategic aims.
- 3.10 Cabinet approved the Council Strategy, 'Enfield – A Fairer Future for All', at the meeting on 24th November 2010 and are recommending that Council consider and agree the Council Strategy.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The Council could choose not to have a Council Strategy but, as detailed above, this could affect the organisation's ability to have a clear vision and direction in the coming years.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 A clear and concise Council Strategy is vital for ensuring the organisation can deliver against its vision and strategic aims in the coming years. The Council is therefore recommended to consider and agree the Strategy.

6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

The changes in Council Strategy and any associated financial implications will be built into the budget planning process for 2011-12 and onwards.

6.2 Legal Implications

The preparation of a Council Strategy/Plan is recommended and compiles with the Local Government Act 2000 as an important element in councils Policy Framework. The report compiles with the various local government legislation.

6.3 Property Implications

None

7. KEY RISKS

- 7.1 Failing to have a Council Strategy could lead to a risk that the Council will not have a clear direction over the coming years, which could potentially impact upon the organisation's ability to deliver against its strategic aims and priorities for the Borough.

8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

8.1 Fairness for All

The Council Strategy is organised by the three strategic aims, and sets out the priorities that will sit beneath each strategic aim, and contribute to the delivery of that aim.

8.2 Growth and Sustainability

The Council Strategy is organised by the three strategic aims, and sets out the priorities that will sit beneath each strategic aim, and contribute to the delivery of that aim.

8.3 Strong Communities

The Council Strategy is organised by the three strategic aims, and sets out the priorities that will sit beneath each strategic aim, and contribute to the delivery of that aim.

9. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The strategic aims and priorities set out in the Council Strategy will ensure that the organisation is able to track its progress and manage the delivery of its priorities. The Business Plan, which sits alongside the Council Strategy, will provide the key mechanism for monitoring and managing the Council's performance.

Background Papers

Appendix I: Council Strategy, 'Enfield – A Fairer Future for All'.