

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL – 17 MARCH 2021

Recommendation from the Cabinet on 9 March 2021:-

236.1. Corporate Plan 2021-24 (Forward Plan Reference FP1033)

Report of the Chief Executive on the Council's proposed strategic priorities and commitments to the Borough's communities for the period 2021-24.

(1) The Decision Taken

RESOLVED:
(unanimous)

- (1) Cabinet agreed the Corporate Plan as outlined in Appendix A of the report for onward approval by Council for adoption.
- (2) Subject to Council's approval, delegated authority is given to Corporate Management Team, in consultation with their respective Executive Member/s, to prepare an action plan and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for 2021/22.
- (3) Cabinet agreed the place narrative as outlined in Appendix B of the report and delegated authority is given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any necessary further adjustments as outlined in paragraph 3.8.

(2) Reasons for the Decision

The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's priorities for the next three years, our commitments to our communities, and how we propose to fulfil them.

These priorities have been shaped by the views of over 1,600 residents and businesses who told us what was important to them, what they liked about Welwyn Hatfield, and how they would like to see the Borough evolve.

They also reflect conversations with over 40 stakeholders and partners at the Alliance Conference towards the end of last year.

Those conversations have also fed into the Council's "place narrative" – a longer-term vision for the future of the Welwyn Hatfield which sets out how we would like to see the Borough develop over the next 20 or 30 years. It is vital that this is a shared vision and, subject to the approval, the Chief Executive and the Leader will write to those stakeholders seeking further comments before the place narrative is finalised.

The Leader thanked Members of the cross-party task and finish group for overseeing the development of the corporate priorities. Also officers of the council who have carried out such successful engagement with our communities, and who will, subject to approval at full council, will finalise the full corporate plan for 2021 to 2024.

The Council has never before been able to say confidently that our priorities reflect those of the people who live, work and spend their leisure time here.