

Report of	Meeting	Date
Leader of the Conservative Group / Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group	Council	Tuesday, 16 November 2021

Conservative Group Alternative Corporate Strategy 2021/22

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Purpose of the Report

1. To present the Conservative Group's proposed Alternative Corporate Strategy for 2021/22.

Recommendations to Council

2. That the alternative strategy is noted alongside the Corporate Strategy for 2021/22.

Reasons for recommendations

3. To ensure that robust consideration is given to the alternative strategic options when deliberating and approving the Corporate Strategy for 2021/22.

Other options considered and rejected

4. The alternative strategy will be presented in conjunction with the proposed Corporate Strategy to ensure all options for the Council's strategic future are given sufficient consideration.

Corporate priorities

5. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	X	A strong local economy	X
Clean, safe and healthy communities	X	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	X

Background to the report

6. The Labour Group are to present the Corporate Strategy for 2021/22 – 2023/24 which provides a clear statement of what the Council aims to achieve over the next three years, setting out the Council's vision, priorities, and long-term outcomes.
7. Alongside this, an Alternative Corporate Strategy is developed by the opposition. This is to ensure that sufficient consideration is given to the alternative strategic priorities and objectives, whilst also providing the opposition an opportunity to present their vision for Chorley if elected. The opposition is currently composed of the Conservative Group.
8. In readiness for the annual Policy Council meeting in November, the Conservative Group has undertaken work to identify their key priorities for the Borough and develop an alternative Corporate Strategy that can be used in debating the refresh of the Corporate Strategy and budget.

Alternative Corporate Strategy 2021/22

Summary

9. The Alternative Corporate Strategy for 2021/22 which sets out the primary focus on a strong and healthy recovery from the pandemic in order to support residents, communities, businesses, and partners. It also presents their overarching strategic vision for Chorley, which includes:

"Your Chorley... where everyone matters. To go beyond the statutory duty expected of a Borough Council, helping to make Chorley the best place to live, work, and prosper".

10. The strategy aims to create a place which is a safe and thriving place to live, work, shop, learn, play, invest, and visit for all of Chorley's residents. There are five strategic priorities and five core values and behaviours which underpin this vision.
11. The Corporate Strategy proposed by the Conservative Group is attached as Appendix A.

Priorities and values

12. The five strategic priority areas include:

- Delivering the best services;
- Community wellbeing and the vulnerable;
- Protecting the environment;
- Growing our economy;
- Sustainable homes for all.

13. The strategy also establishes a set of values and behaviours. These underline the ethos of the Conservative Group if given the opportunity to deliver on their priorities:

- Excellence: working together to provide the best services possible.
- Innovative: aspiring and leading in all we do.

- Value for money: combining cost, quality, and sustainable to meet residents' requirements.
- Accountable: willingness to accept responsibility.
- Respect: treating people fairly and being open and honest whilst leading by example.

Climate change and air quality

14. The Alternative Corporate Strategy for 2021/22 includes the strategic priority to protect the environment. This seeks to contribute to the Council's sustainability targets by ensuring we take a lead on environmental improvement schemes and renewable energy initiatives. This is in addition to encouraging and promoting sustainable travel and uptake of electric vehicles.

Equality and diversity

15. Under the strategic priority of community wellbeing and the vulnerable includes the commitment to challenge and address local issues of race and inequality to provide opportunity for all. This would further our commitments to the Public Sector Equality Duty, as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Risk

16. No risks have been considered. This is because the Alternative Corporate Strategy will not be implemented in 2021/22 and is designed to ensure that sufficient deliberation is given with the approval of the Corporate Strategy and allow the opposition to present their alternative vision for Chorley.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

17. No comment.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

18. No comment.

Background documents

19. There are no background papers to this report.

Appendices

20. This report includes the following appendices:
- Appendix A – Alternative Corporate Strategy 2021/22

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