
Subject:	STATE OF THE DISTRICT
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet – 14 May 2018 Council - 23 May 2018
Report of:	Nadeem Aziz, Chief Executive
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Keith Morris, Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Non-Key Decision
Classification:	Unrestricted

Purpose of the report: To note the 2017 State of the District Strategic Highlights and any significant movement from previous years.

To agree to a change in the way the data is collected and reported to ensure members and officers have access to the latest available data.

Recommendation: Recommend Cabinet note the report.

Recommend the Council agree to regular online updates to the data collected, with members informed in a timely manner of any significant changes. An annual strategic highlights report will be prepared each year, capturing overall changes in trends, in addition to a full State of the District report, which will continue to be available on-line.

1. Summary

1.1 This report is a backward look at the state of the district indicators, with information collected and updated under the headings of: Population Profile; Housing; Economy Business and Employment; Finance; Education and Skills; Health and Wellbeing; Deprivation and Poverty; Community Safety and Quality of Life.

2. Introduction and Background.

2.1 Not all information is collected and reported annually (where there have been no updates available this has been noted in the full State of the District document), also not all information is updated at the same time each year, this can make it difficult to have a 'cut-off' point and results in some information already being out of date at the time of reporting through Council.

2.2 In order to keep Members as up-to-date as possible with data, as it emerges, it is proposed that as soon as the new data is available the main State of the District document is updated and Members informed in a timely manner, through exception reports of emerging trends, so action can be taken or planned if and when necessary.

2.3 An annual strategic highlights document will also be produced reporting the changing trends over the year, alongside the full State of the District report being available on-line.

2.4 Not all information captured in the report is aligned to services the Council is responsible for.

3. Identification of Options

- 3.1 A) An annual refresh: This is currently how the data is collected and analysed. An annual refresh of data means a cut off point to allow time for analysis, trend comparisons and the reporting process through to council. As data is provided and updated sporadically through the year this means some information has been updated since the cut off point.
- 3.2 B) Live updating of information and data as it is released through the year: The State of the District will become a live document available for officers and members through the Council's website. Members will receive exception reports if data shows a significant increase or decrease on any of the recorded information and an annual strategic highlights report to show trends.

4. Evaluation of Options

- 4.1 Option B is the preferred option. The State of the District is a valuable resource identifying key factors of growth, challenges and developments in the district. It is also a useful tool when considering actions and ambitions and when applying for funding. However, the way in which it is currently undertaken, as a backward look of the year, is potentially hindering the effectiveness of the report. Members and officers having the most up-to-date information as and when it is required is the main aim of the suggested preferred option.

5. Resource Implications

- 5.1 Actions to address key factors within the State of the District are contained within the Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan has been set with the Medium Term Financial Plan.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Comment from the Section 151 Officer: Finance have been consulted and have nothing further to add (VB)
- 6.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.
- 6.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15>

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – State of the District - Annual Strategic Highlights

8. Background Papers

State of the District 2017

Contact Officers: Michelle Farrow, Head of Leadership Support and Caroline Hargreaves, Leadership Support Officer.