

<b>CABINET</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
<b>17 September 2024</b>	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Executive Director of Corporate Services and S151 Officer
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Mohammed Jamil, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance
Contact Officer(s):	Emma Riding, Service Director Financial Management & Deputy S151 Officer Amanda Rose, Head of Communications Rachel Blake, Head of CDU, EDI and Transformation

## **SHAPING OUR CITY - CONSULTATION LAUNCH**

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>FROM: Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance</b>	<b>Deadline date: 09 September 2024</b>
It is recommended that Cabinet approves the launch of the Shaping Our City public consultation, which covers a refresh to the Corporate Strategy and budget position. This will run from 18 September 2024 for a period of 6 weeks, closing on 27 October 2024.	

### **1.0 ORIGIN OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report comes to Cabinet as part of the council's process for developing the Corporate Strategy and a balanced budget for 2025/26.

### **2.0 PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

#### **2.1 Purpose**

This report is submitted for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1, "To take collective responsibility for the delivery of all strategic Executive functions within the Council's Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the Council's overall improvement programmes to delivery excellent services."

#### **2.2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Over recent years the council has come a long way and made improvements to the way it delivers services, its governance arrangements and financial position, the latter being demonstrated by reducing a huge overspend position in the last two financial years.

However, our financial position has considerably changed, due to demand for services such as adult's, children's, housing and special educational needs continuing to outstrip our current assumptions and interest rates expected to remain higher for much longer. Taking this into account the council is currently estimating the budget gap in 2025/26 could range between £13.3m and £24.3m. (further detail included within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy also on this Cabinet agenda).

This means that the council needs to be more precise about how it spends its limited budget and be really clear with staff and residents on where our focus will be placed over the next three years. This also must be achievable, so that we can deliver what we are aiming to. (Our priorities must be in the right areas and must be affordable)

We know that the Corporate Strategy agreed in 2022 commits the council to more than we can deliver with the resources that we have available, and as a council we need to be adaptable to the ever-changing needs of the city. Therefore, our priorities need to reflect these changes.

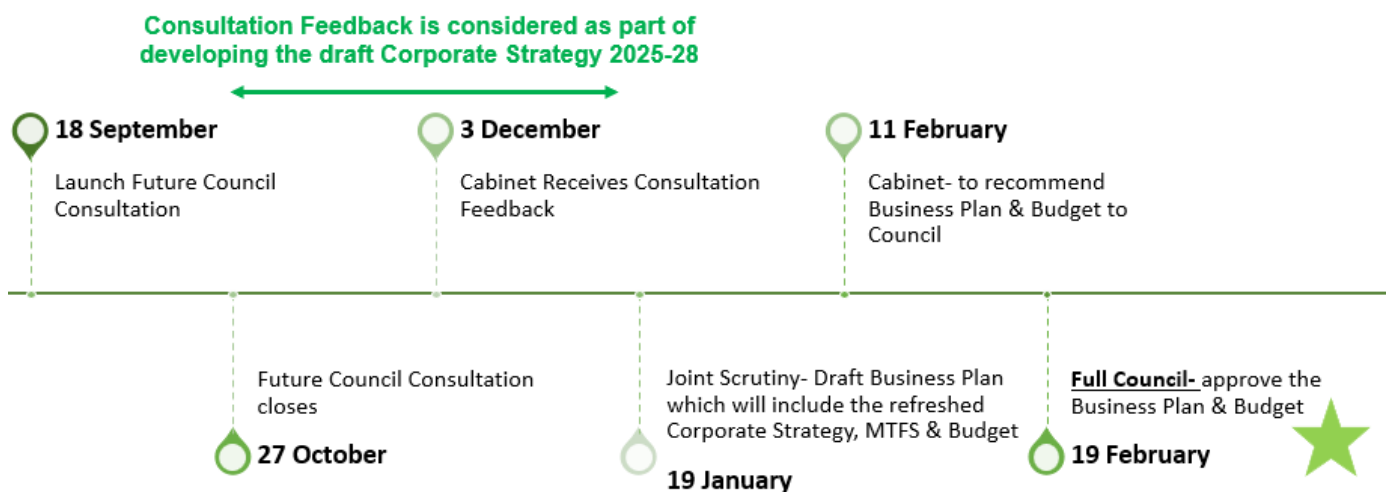
Appendix A- Shaping Our City Consultation - sets out what we think those priorities should be and how they will benefit our residents, both now and in the future. The consultation will be launched on 18 September to gather feedback from our key stakeholders to shape this.

## 5. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
Date for relevant Council meeting	<b>N/A</b>	Date for submission to Government Dept.	<b>N/A</b>

This is the starting point for the development of a refreshed Corporate Strategy 2025-28, and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) covering the same period and the Budget for 2025/26.

The following timeline sets out the key dates for this. The MTFS report also on this Cabinet agenda sets out in more detail the key finance reporting dates.



## 6 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report seeks to refresh and focus the council's Corporate Priorities so we can ensure they are current and reflect the needs of the city, whilst at the same time being delivered within the financial envelope available.

### 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Shaping Our City Consultation will be open for a 6-week period from 18 September. In recent years the council has tried different methods of consultation to maximise engagement, with growing input being received each year. Building on this success, the council will be taking the consultation out into the community with a series of sessions across the city as outlined in the following table:

Date and time	Location
24 September, 6pm to 8pm.	Arthur Mellows Village College Ginton
2 October, 7pm to 9pm.	ARU Peterborough
3 October, 6pm to 8pm	Online session
7 October, 7pm to 9pm.	Wellsprings Community Church The Alpha Centre Bretton
8 October, 7pm to 9pm.	CSK Hampton Church Silver Hill Hampton Centre
14 October, 7pm to 9pm.	Focus Community Centre Chestnut Avenue Dogsthorpe
21 October, 7pm to 9pm.	Salvation Army Citadel 1203 Bourges Boulevard New England
23 October, 7pm to 9pm	Stanground Academy Peterborough Road Stanground
22 October, 7pm to 9pm	Ormiston Bushfield Academy Orton

In addition to the above, council representatives will be attending community and partner meetings across the city to talk about the Shaping Our City Consultation, to encourage participation and feedback.

Over the course of the consultation the council will be engaging with, and hoping to receive responses from the following key stakeholders:

- Residents
- Council staff
- City Councillors and Members of Parliament
- Parish Councillors
- Community groups
- Businesses and business forums
- ARU Peterborough and other education partners.
- Partner organisations such as the NHS, registered housing providers, Police and Fire
- Government departments.

The consultation will have a dedicated page on the council's website, with a survey which will allow people to respond to a series of questions and share their views. Appendix A also sets out the questions forming part of that survey.

This will help the council to understand what people believe is a priority and shape which services are to be delivered within the financial envelope available. More importantly this should raise awareness of the challenges the council, and more widely local government, faces.

The results of the consultation will be published in November, ahead of the Cabinet meeting on 3 December.

## **7.0 ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

7.1 For Cabinet to approve the launch of the Shaping Our City consultation.

## **8.0 REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

8.1 To gather views of the public to support the development of a refreshed Corporate Strategy, MTFS 2025-28 and Budget for 2025/26, noting that the council's financial challenges means prioritisation of services will be required.

## **9 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

9.1 No alternative option has been considered.

## **10.0 IMPLICATIONS**

### **10.1 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications in respect of what is proposed which at this stage to consult with members of the public in respect of the development of a refreshed Corporate Strategy, MTFS 2025-28 and Budget for 2025/26.

### **10.2 Human Resources implications**

No specific implications in this report.

### **10.3 Equality Impact Assessments**

No specific implications in this report.

### **10.4 Carbon Impact Assessments**

No specific implications in this report.

## **11.0 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

No specific background documents used.

## **12.0 APPENDICES**

12.1 Appendix A – [Corporate Strategy refresh.docx](#)



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