

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

No interests or conflicts to declare.

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Leader/Managing Director

1. DECISION TAKEN

To approve minor amendments made to the Council Plan (as detailed in paragraph 8.2 of this decision) following its approval by Full Council on 19 September 2024, under authority delegated by Full Council.

2. DECISION TAKER

Anthony Roche, Managing Director in consultation with Cllr Daniel Allen, Leader of the Council

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

17 October 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 To reflect the minor amendments that have been made following approval of the Council Plan at Full Council in September, as a result of the design process and for clarification.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 The Council Plan text could remain the same as it was when reviewed and approved by Full Council on 19th September 2024. However, this would not take into consideration various additions that had been suggested at Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet, and which were highlighted to Full Council in the Leader's introduction to the item at the 19th September meeting. In addition to this, some further minor wording amendments have been made to better reflect the Council's level of influence in particular areas.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 Consultation on these changes has taken place with the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Council. In addition to this, several of the amendments reflect suggestions that were made in the discussions at Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The Council Plan 2024-2028 was developed through a series of workshops with administration members and officers, and through a working group comprised of a smaller number of administration members and officers.

The draft plan then progressed through the Committee process. It was reviewed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet before being approved by Full Council on the 19th September 2024. The discussion at Overview & Scrutiny Committee made several suggestions for amendments but did not result in any formal recommendation for amendment. Cabinet reviewed the Overview & Scrutiny suggestions and made their own, but also did not make any formal recommendation for amendment. When the Council Plan was presented at Full Council, the Leader's introduction to the item indicated which suggestions from Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet the working group had agreed to incorporate into the plan. Full Council approved the Council Plan and approved the report's recommendation to delegate further minor amendments to the plan.

8.2 The table below sets out the changes that have been made to the Plan, since its approval at Full Council. Some of the amendments made relate to the suggestions from Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet, while others clarify the influence of North Herts Council in particular areas. The amendments are as follows:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Original Version</i>	<i>Updated Version</i>
Thriving Communities	Continue to work on our Community Safety Priorities and other areas of community safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social Behaviour • Violence against Women and Girls • Environmental Crime e.g. fly tipping • Tackling crime against young people 	Continue to work on our Community Safety Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social Behaviour • Violence against Women and Girls • Environmental Crime e.g. fly tipping <p>Work with partners to highlight crime against young people.</p>
Thriving Communities	Respond to the Government's Young Futures programme	Explore a role within the government's Young Futures Programme.
Responsible Growth	n/a	Work with the Herts Business Support and Skills programmes to raise their profile and increase their activities with North Herts businesses and residents. This will include extending the services offered from the Council, and ensuring more networking events are held in and for North Herts
Sustainability	We strive to be sustainable in our service-delivery and will continue to follow a policy-led budget, while placing our environmental responsibilities at the centre of our policymaking. We will work with you to achieve balanced budgets, improve environmental sustainability, and reduce carbon emissions as much as we can to work towards our net zero ambitions.	We strive to be sustainable in our service-delivery and will continue to follow a policy-led budget, while placing our environmental responsibilities at the centre of our policymaking. We will work with you to achieve balanced budgets, improve environmental sustainability, and reduce carbon emissions as much as we can to work towards our net zero ambitions. We aim to be net zero in our operations by 2030 and for our district to be net zero by 2040. Net zero means achieving a

		balance between the carbon emitted into the atmosphere and the carbon removed from it.
Sustainability	Monitor air quality in the district.	Work with partners to review air quality in the district.

8.3 In addition to these amendments, a diagram to explain the relationship between the Council Plan and other documents and processes including the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and the Council Delivery Plan has been incorporated during the design process, as promised during the Leader’s speech to Full Council.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1. In accordance with what was recommended and approved at Full Council on 19th September 2024, the Managing Director and Leader of the Council have the authority to approve minor amendments to the Council Plan.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1. See Human Resource Implications at 15.1. The financial implications otherwise remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The risk implications remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 The equality implications remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The Social Value Implications remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1. The Environmental Implications remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 The Responsible Growth change in the table in paragraph 8.2 references that existing services will be extended. In the short-term this will be delivered from existing staff resources, but will mean that there is less focus on other economic development work. In the longer term it may mean that additional resource would be required, and then this would have to be compared against the other priorities and overall Council financial sustainability. Other than this, the Human Resources Implications remain as set out in the report of Full Council on 19 September 2024.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 [Council Plan and Priorities 2024-2028 Report](#)
- 16.2 [Council Plan 2024-2028](#)

17. APPENDICES


- 17.1 none.
- 17.2 The amended Council Plan will be uploaded to this page:
<https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/council-plan>

NOTIFICATION DATE

18.10.24

Signature of the Leader of the Council ... 

Date 16.10.24

Signature of the Managing Director 

Date 16.10.24

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.

Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS – THIS IS A NON-EXECUTIVE DECISION.