

Report to Cabinet

Subject: Review of the Gedling Plan 2020-23

Date: 6 August 2020

Author: Senior Leadership Team

Wards Affected

Borough wide

Purpose

To update Cabinet on the review of the Gedling Plan 2020-23 and seek approval for a number of minor amendments.

Key Decision

This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards of the Borough.

Recommendations

THAT:

- 1. The review of the Gedling Plan 2020-23 be noted;**
- 2. The amendments to actions as set out in the report be approved; and**
- 3. The amendments to performance indicators as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.**

1 Background

1.1 In June 2020, Cabinet approved the Reset Strategy and agreed that the Gedling Plan priorities and actions be reviewed in light of the consequences of Covid-19.

1.2 It was recognised that although the Plan was only a few months old, it is clear that the global, national and most importantly local context is very

different. It was therefore proposed that a review of the Gedling Plan should be carried out as a priority to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and recognises the new work streams to deliver the Reset Strategy set out in the report to Cabinet in June. It was noted that actions in the Gedling Plan which will influence successful recovery will need to be prioritised whilst other projects may need to be delivered in different ways or re-profiled to future years.

1.3 As Cabinet is aware, the Gedling Plan 2020-23 was approved by Cabinet in February 2020 and Council in March 2020 immediately prior to Covid-19 having significant impact. It was developed over a number of months based on updated datasets and analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats ('SWOT') of both the Borough and the Council. The Plan set an ambitious vision for the borough and a 3-year action plan based around the following 5 priorities:

- Cohesive, Diverse and Safe Communities
- High Performing Council
- Vibrant Economy
- Sustainable Environment
- Healthy Lifestyles

2 Proposal

Gedling Plan priorities

2.1 Following review of the Gedling Plan 2020-23, it is considered that the above 5 priorities and objectives which underpin them remain fit for purpose and it is proposed that no changes are made.

Actions

2.2 As Cabinet is aware the Gedling Plan 2020-23 sets out a 3 year action plan with many of the actions to be delivered over the 3 year period. At this stage, whilst activity which should have been commenced in year 1 may not have started as originally planned due to the Covid-19 pandemic, for a number of actions it is reasonable to conclude that they will be completed by the end of year 3. The situation will be closely monitored as part of the quarterly performance monitoring and if the position should change further reports will be brought to Cabinet.

2.3 There are a small number of actions which were due to be commenced and completed in year 1, however it is clear that this is not going to be achievable and there will be slippage into year 2. It is therefore proposed that Cabinet support the re-profiling of the following actions across years 1 and 2:

- Create a welcoming and vibrant reception at the Civic Centre.

This project is being delivered with Nottingham Trent University students assisting with design concepts. Unfortunately due to the impact of Covid-19 this was not progressed as expected in quarter 4 and at the present time there is uncertainty over the nature of students return at the beginning of the academic year. It is expected that progress will still be made during this year, but that the project will slip into year 2.

- Explore options and introduce a 'Swimming Passport' providing access & opportunity for free swimming sessions for under-16s and over 65s

The leisure centres have been closed during the whole of quarter 1 and reopened on 25 July (quarter 2) subject to Covid-19 restrictions. There has been a significant loss of income and therefore it is proposed that this action is delayed to allow business recovery.

2.4 Following review of the Gedling Plan and consideration of the Reset Strategy work streams, it is clear that we need to re-think our delivery models and activity planned for a number of actions. The profound impact on the economy, our residents and our communities will require different support and interventions than previously envisaged. However, it is considered that the actions are still relevant and deliverable, albeit in a different way. These will continue to be progressed under the umbrella of the Reset Strategy as previously reported.

2.5 As Cabinet is aware, unfortunately the Arnold Carnival, Play Days and children's events and youth school holiday activities have had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions and as a result the action to "Deliver a programme of community events and youth activities reflecting Gedling Plan priorities" will not be achieved as planned this year. Future provision of events is being explored but at the current time strict social distancing and restriction on gatherings remain in place.

2.6 Cabinet will recall that the Reset Strategy is being delivered through five work streams which are grouped into three overarching aspects as follows. Each work stream is being led by a member of Senior Leadership Team overseen by the Chief Executive:

- Business
- Residents and communities
- The Council
 - Frontline services
 - Support services
 - Finance

The Gedling Plan already captures a number of actions which will influence successful recovery and delivery of these will need to be prioritised. It is not proposed that any additional actions are included in the Gedling Plan 2020-23 which specifically refer to the Reset Strategy, however Cabinet will receive progress updates on an exception basis alongside the usual Gedling Plan quarterly monitoring reports.

Performance Indicators

- 2.7 Cabinet will recall that the performance indicator targets for 2020/21 were approved on 12 March 2020. These have also been reviewed in the light of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and it is clear that a small number will not be achievable by year end. As a result a number of changes are proposed; the new target for approval by Cabinet and the reason for the change are set out in Appendix 1.

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 An alternative option would be not to agree any changes to the Gedling Plan actions and performance indicators. Whilst it is appropriate that ambitious activity and stretching targets are set, they also need to be achievable. If the original actions and indicators remain, it is clear that a number will be reported as not achieved at the end of year 1.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising out of this report.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising out of this report.
- 6.2 Individual equality impact assessments will be carried out for each project where required.

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

- 7.1 There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising out of this report

8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Updated Performance Indicators.

9 Background Papers

9.1 None.

10 Reasons for Recommendations

10.1 To ensure that the Gedling Plan remains fit for purpose.

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 21 July 2020

Approved by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 21 July 2020