DRAFT Oadby & Wigston Borough Council A Summary of the Corporate Plan (as referred to in Action 1 of improvement plan)

1. The Borough

1.1 The Borough is made up of the towns and communities of <u>Oadby</u>, <u>Wigston</u> and <u>South</u> <u>Wigston</u>. The Borough is predominantly urban and adjoins the city of <u>Leicester</u> which is situated to the north. The borough has approximatly 60,000 residents living within its nine square miles.

2. The Council's Governance Structure

2.1 The Council exists to serve both its residents and as an agency of central Government. The Council's primary role is to implement national legislation and deliver local services.

2.2 The Council is a democratic organisation that is elected, in its totality, every 4 years. It consists of 26 Councillors who make all of the Council's decisions. The Council is currently made up of 22 Liberal Democrats, 2 First Conserve and 2 Conservatives. The next elections are in May 2015.

2.3 The Council is a democratic organisation. All decisions are taken by its 26 Councillors operating through a Committee system.

3. The Council's Aims, Vision and Strategic Objectives

3.1 In May 2011, at the start of its term of office, the Council set out its aims for its four year administrative period of what it wanted to achieve. Its overarching vision is:

- A good quality of life for all residents
- A clean, green and safe environment
- A successful economy

3.2 This vision is underpinned by its specific strategic objectives:

- i. Protect and continue to deliver the good quality, consistent, value for money front line services provided to residents, particularly weekly refuse and recycling collections.
- ii. Enhance the green environment of the Borough so that residents are able to take full advantage of it.
- iii. Revitalise the town centres through development and by retaining free shoppers car parking.
- iv. Work with the Police and partners to create a safer Borough where people feel more comfortable and at ease.
- v. Improve community engagement including listening to and delegating more to the three town forums.
- vi. Work with others to try and improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of the borough.

vii. To work smarter to deliver the efficiency savings needed to meet the large reductions to the Council's budget.

4. Management Structure

4.1 The leadership, management and operation of the Council's services and the implementation of strategies, policies and budget are carried out by the Management Team together with the Heads of Service. All 200 staff employed by the Council are accountable to Councillors through the Chief Executive as Head of Paid Service.

4.2 Policy is developed by Council staff who present reports to the appropriate committee either at the request of councillors or due to legislative requirements. The Councillors then debate these issues at the appropriate committee in open meetings and vote on them. Their decisions then determine what policies the Council will adopt and what its priorities are. It is then the responsibility of the Council staff to implement those policies.

4.3 A performance management Charter System has been introduced which enables Councillors, residents and senior managers to monitor the progress of the Council's priorities. All of the Heads of Service and their staff contribute to achieving the priorities with targets set out in annual Service Plans. All staff have a designated role within the organisational structure and also work with colleagues from across the Council with many participating in cross cutting corporate working groups.

4.4 A formal employee development interview and review process is carried out which includes an assessment of performance and sets targets for the forthcoming year which contribute to the Council's agreed priorities.

5. Council Funding

5.1 The Council's main services are primarily funded equally through a combination of money allocated by the central Government and Council Tax paid by the residents of the Borough. The Council is also a housing landlord with over 1,200 properties and this element is funded through a combination of rents and loans.

6. Equality

61. The Council has a duty to promote equality and is measured against its commitment and performance. The purpose is to ensure that all local authorities have made a high quality response to the equality priorities and targets for services and employment

7. Equal Opportunities Policy

7.1 Oadby and Wigston Borough Council will take action to ensure that all people who visit, live or work in the Borough are treated justly and equally, are free from prejudice, fear, harassment and discrimination, and have equal access to learning, employment and social opportunities to enhance their quality of life.

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