

**REPORT FROM: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

**TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

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**Report Author:** Sarah Astin-Wood  
**Tel. No:** 01282 661782  
**E-mail:** [Sarah.astin-wood@pendle.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.astin-wood@pendle.gov.uk)

## **UPDATE ON THE CORPORATE PLAN 2023-27**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide an update on the engagement so far to begin to identify priorities for the Corporate Plan 2023-27.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the update is noted.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

To acknowledge progress made so far and to note the intention to adopt a new Corporate Plan in February 2023.

### **ISSUE**

1. Following the report brought on 26<sup>th</sup> May, an in-depth and inclusive engagement approach has been taken to identifying priorities for the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-27. This consultation and engagement plan has involved Elected Members, staff, the local community, local businesses and partners. It also ran alongside the budget consultation; thus ensuring it complements the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), enabling the priorities of the Council to be resourced accordingly.

### **LIFE IN PENDLE SURVEY**

2. The Corporate Plan engagement has followed on from the Life in Pendle survey, which was completed in late 2021. The themes are intrinsically linked to the development of the Corporate Plan.
3. The Life in Pendle Survey was undertaken as part of the 'Research the Research' project, led by PS Research, in which engagement with harder to reach groups (such as young

people and the BME community) was explored. The aim of this was to understand the best way to engage with these groups and enable us to tailor our future research and consultation projects to ensure we reach as much of the community as possible.

## ENGAGEMENT UPDATE – CORPORATE PLAN 2023-27

Milestone / Deliverable	Completion Date
Pendle Profile developed using existing research and data, including the results of the Life in Pendle survey.	June 2022
Workshop with Elected Members and representatives from the Corporate Management Team	June 2022
Pendle Borough Council staff conferences	July/August 2022
<i>This is Pendle</i> online survey (PS Research) – 422 respondents (see Appendix)	Late Aug- early Nov 2022
<i>This is Pendle</i> engagement sessions in communities (In-Situ) – 363 people engaged with across Pendle	Sept/Oct 2022
Session to look at findings from <i>This is Pendle</i>	November 2022
Session with Policy and Resources Committee to look at findings	November 2022
Partner engagement event session with the Community Cohesion Action Network	November 2022
Business engagement via Pendle Connects and Pendle Vision Board	Nov/Dec 2022

## PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Draft priorities for new Corporate Plan with Elected Members	December 2022
Develop first draft of Corporate Plan, alongside the MTFP	Dec 2022 – Feb 2023
Adopt final Corporate Plan 2023-27 at Budget Council meeting	Feb 2023

4. Key feedback received from the *Life in Pendle* survey and *This is Pendle* survey and engagement sessions highlights these themes:
  - Three in five Pendle residents are satisfied with their local area
  - Parks and open spaces and bin collections, recycling and street cleaning were highlighted as the area residents want to support
  - Residents are most likely to say cleaner streets and a greater police presence would improve their local area
  - 77% of residents used the words “beautiful / rural / countryside” to describe Pendle

- Nearly half of responders are prepared to pay more through Pay as you go or by increasing council tax to improve services
- 44% of residents are comfortable making contact by email or online forms if it means no service reductions
- Two challenges stand out to Pendle residents: pay and health

5. The top six themes suggested for the Corporate Plan were:

- Roads and Transport
- Business and Jobs
- Community Safety
- Protecting green spaces
- Cleaner streets
- Inward investment

An overarching principle around pride in place appears to underpin these key themes.

6. Whilst the data tells us there are considerable challenges for Pendle, the new Corporate Plan will look at how we work on these challenges. This includes how the Council will work with our communities, partners, regional and national bodies, to achieve our ambitions and lobby and influence as appropriate.
7. The new plan is also an opportunity to celebrate and build on the many successes of Pendle. For example, the community spirit in Trawden which has saved its shop, pub and library and earned the name the 'Best Place to Live' in the North West of England, by the Sunday Times (April 2022).
8. Furthermore, data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) found Pendle is the happiest place to live in East Lancashire. The ONS conducted a survey and asked people to rate their happiness in the 12 months up to March 2022. Those surveyed were asked to rate their life satisfaction, happiness and anxiety levels out of 10. According to the data, Pendle is the happiest place to live in East Lancashire scoring a rating of 8.1 out of 10. It also ranked the best for life satisfaction (7.98), worthwhile (8.17) and anxiety levels (2.28).
9. Pendle Borough Council's Corporate Plan 2023-27 will also dovetail with *Lancashire 2050*, the new strategic framework for Lancashire. This includes priorities around eight key themes:
- Economic prosperity
  - Transport and infrastructure
  - Environment and climate
  - Housing
  - Early years and education
  - Employment and skills
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Communities and place

## IMPLICATIONS

**Policy:** A focused in-depth and inclusive approach to the development of the Corporate Plan, which is intertwined with the development of the MTFP, will enable the Council to ensure that it is better able to deliver the services and projects the borough needs.

**Financial:** None arising directly from this report.

**Legal:** None arising directly from this report.

**Risk Management:** A focused in-depth and inclusive approach to the development of the Corporate Plan, which is intertwined with the development of the MTFP, will enable the Council to ensure that it is better able to deliver the services and projects the borough needs.

The Council also has a risk management framework which serves to highlight the key risks for the Council and ways in which those risks will be effectively managed. These key risks are recorded in the Council's Strategic Risk Register and are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that appropriate actions are taken as required.

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from this report.

**Sustainability:** None arising directly from this report.

**Community Safety:** None arising directly from this report.

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from this report.

## APPENDICES

*This is Pendle data and summary.*

## LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Lancashire 2050 - A strategic framework for Lancashire](#)