

Corporate Plan Summary

2015-16

Summary of Bridgend County Borough Council Corporate Plan 2013-17 reviewed for 2015-16

All across the UK, local councils are facing unprecedented challenges following reduced Government funding and increased demands on essential services. Bridgend County Borough Council has been advised to prepare for a funding shortfall of approximately £49 million between now and 2018-19. That means the Council will have to find savings of £11.2 million in 2015-16.

In light of the challenges it faces, the Council has reviewed its improvement priorities and the key actions defined for each priority to ensure they are still pertinent and affordable.

The review concluded that the six improvement priorities in the Corporate Plan 2013-17 should be retained but that the key actions identified to deliver these improvement priorities should be refined and reduced in number to ensure a clear focus on the areas that matter the most to our citizens.

Summary of improvement priorities for 2015 -16

Our Corporate Plan 2013-17 sets out the following six priorities for 2015-16:

- Working together to develop the local economy
- Working together to raise ambitions and drive up educational achievement
- Working with children and families to tackle problems early
- Working together to help vulnerable people to stay independent
- Working together to tackle health issues and encourage healthy lifestyles
- Working together to make the best use of our resources.



Improvement Priority

1

Working together to develop the local economy

We will:

- continue to implement key regeneration projects and programmes to enhance and develop our economy;
- improve opportunities and provision for life-long learning and ensure that the county borough can compete on a regional level for jobs, attracting further investment from new and existing businesses and supporting entrepreneurs; and
- work with public transport providers and communities to improve transport links, especially public transport

Improvement Priority

2

Working together to raise ambitions and drive up educational achievement

We will:

- work with schools and other partners to help children and young people improve their reading, writing and number skills, so that they are properly equipped for further learning and the world of work;
- work with schools to improve school attendance in both primary and secondary schools; and
- continue to improve the learning environment by modernising the school estate.

Improvement Priority

3

Working with children and families to tackle problems early

We will:

- bring services together via community hubs to help children, young people and families to tackle their problems at the earliest opportunity;
- work with families and partner agencies to ensure that families receive the help they need at the earliest opportunity to meet their needs; and
- work with service users, carers, families and all partners to enable people to access or retain housing to meet their needs.

Improvement Priority

4

Working together to help vulnerable people stay independent

We will:

- work with service users, carers and partners, including the third sector, to develop services in a way which supports people to remain independent for longer and only access statutory services when absolutely necessary; and
- work with all of our existing and potential partners to develop a range of accommodation options and support for vulnerable and older people who need help to achieve or sustain independence.

Improvement Priority

5

Working together to tackle health issues and encourage healthy lifestyles

We will:

- embed healthy eating messages in early years settings, such as schools, youth organisations, leisure services and community groups;
- work with partners to address priority issues such as mental wellbeing, childhood obesity, alcohol, smoking and substance misuse, especially among young people; and
- work with a range of partners to develop services and opportunities that encourage and promote life-long physical activity, including making the best use of our Rights of Way, cycleways, community routes and green spaces.

Improvement Priority

6

Working together to make the best use of our resources

We will:

- achieve the savings identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- pursue the Council's transformation agenda by implementing the Bridgend Change Programme;
- explore innovative and flexible ways of delivering services, including commissioning;
- maximise the use of our assets and technology;
- develop a stronger organisation development function to increase the skills of employees and allow greater flexibility; and
- improve our communication with citizens to understand their needs and improve their access to our services.

Delivering the Plan

The reviewed Plan has identified the specific steps that the Council will take during 2015-16 to deliver each of these priorities.

The delivery of the Corporate Plan is supported by:

- A strong financial strategy;
- Clear accountabilities and responsibility for actions in our directorate and service business plans;
- Robust mechanisms for measuring and monitoring performance .
- A close working relationship with partner organisations; and
- Ongoing feedback from citizens and service users.



Want to know more?

You can find the Corporate Plan and other information on the priorities and performance pages of www.bridgend.gov.uk

For more information, please contact the Corporate Improvement Team:

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