## SPECIAL ANGUS COUNCIL

#### 27 FEBRUARY 2025

#### COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2025/26

#### REPORT BY KATHRYN LINDSAY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### 1. ABSTRACT

1.1 This report presents the draft Council Delivery Plan for 2025/26, outlining Angus Council's proposed service delivery over the forthcoming financial year (2025/26).

## 2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

2.1 The draft Council Delivery Plan for 2025/26 is aligned to a range of plans, policies and strategies including the Community Plan 2022-2030 and the Angus Council Plan 2023-2028 (2024 update). It provides further information in relation to how we intend to use our resources during the 2025/26 financial year.

#### 3. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 The Council is recommended to:
  - (i) approve in principle the draft Council Delivery Plan for 2025/26, which is included in Appendix 1; and
  - (ii) authorise the Chief Executive to update the draft plan to final version status, reflecting the decisions made by the Council at this meeting, and publish the final version on the Council's website.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The <u>Council Plan</u>, which sets out the Council priorities over the period covering 2023-2028, was agreed in March 2023. It was subsequently updated with minor adjustments agreed in February 2024.
- 4.2 The <u>Angus Community Plan</u>, which sets out the Angus Community Planning Partnership priorities over the period covering 2022-2030, was agreed in February 2023.
- 4.3 A wide range of other plans, policies and strategies have also been agreed by the Council at various times and these will also be progressed over the time period of the Council Plan. Many of these have been hyperlinked within the draft Council Delivery Plan document for ease of reference.
- 4.4 The shared vision for Angus: 'Angus is a great place to live, work and visit' is consistently applied in our strategic planning approach. It is supported by a set of values and clear priorities that support the Council's contributions towards the partnership outcomes set out in the Community Plan.

# 5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 This is the first version of a combined Council Delivery Plan. The aim is to provide a single point of reference which sets out Angus Council's proposed service delivery over the forthcoming financial year (2025/26), highlighting the key commitments within the overall financial envelope available.
- 5.2 Those Council commitments are set out in the various sections of the draft Council Delivery Plan document (Appendix 1 refers), and cover the following:

- Strategic Planning Context references the strategic plans which provide details of the key areas that operational activity will focus on over the period generally up to 2028.
- Consultation Feedback to Inform the 2025/26 Approach provides an overview of feedback from the recent public consultation to inform the decisions on how best to prioritise finite resources and maintain a balanced budget for 2025/26. An overview of the results from Stage 1 is included in the draft Delivery plan document. Results from Stage 2 are included in Report 50/25, also being considered at this Council meeting, and an overview of Stage 2 will be included in the final version of the Council Delivery Plan document.
- Financial Plan sets out the key financial parameters within which the Council is required to operate in 2025/26. The financial information will be updated in the final Council Delivery Plan document, reflecting the financial decisions taken at this Council meeting.
- Service Plan identifies the priority areas of work that services will focus on during 2025/26 and references specific plans where these have already been agreed.
- Change Plan sets out the key areas where services will undergo change and transformation during 2025/26, including projects that will deliver savings, alongside other projects that focus on investment, innovation and enabling new and improved ways of working to support service delivery.
- Workforce Plan sets out the strategic approach to manging the workforce to ensure the Council's most valued asset is managed, developed and supported to deliver the best possible outcomes and impact.
- 5.3 Seeking to continually improve performance of the Council's services, within the available financial envelope, is fundamental to the Council's approach and this will be supported through the implementation of the Performance Management Framework, agreed by members at Council on 19 December 2024 (<u>Report 390/24 Appendix 1</u> refers).
- 5.4 The forward planning referenced in the draft Council Delivery Plan sets out the commitments put in place to ensure the Council's resources, and the associated public funds, are utilised in the best possible way and reflective of an organisation delivering Best Value for the citizens of Angus.

# 6. PROPOSALS

- 6.1 This report presents the draft Council Delivery Plan for 2025/26, outlining Angus Council's proposed service delivery over the forthcoming financial year (2025/26), highlighting the key commitments within the overall financial envelope available.
- 6.2 It is proposed that the draft Council Delivery Plan, will be updated to a final version reflecting the decisions made by the Council at this meeting. The final version will thereafter be published on the Council's website.
- 6.3 The Council's corporate performance report reflecting progress with the key actions set out in the 2025/26 Delivery Plan will be available to the Scrutiny & Audit Committee in August 2026 (to scrutinise performance matters) and to full Council in September 2026 (to consider progress against strategic planning commitments).

# 7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no additional financial implications arising directly from this report.

# 8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There are no specific risks arising directly from this report. The Council Delivery Plan will support internal controls relating to a range of corporate risks, for example:
  - Financial Sustainability.
  - Transforming for the Future.
  - Performance Management.
  - Partnerships.

# 9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no environmental implications arising directly from this report.

# 10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and can be found at this <u>link</u>. EIAs for specific elements of the Council Delivery Plan have also been undertaken as required and can also be found at this <u>link</u>, including for Change Programme Projects where savings are identified and have been assessed as requiring a full EIA.

# 11. CHILDRENS RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

11.1 A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment has been carried out within the EIA.

# 12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1 The Director of Finance, the Acting Director of Legal, Governance & Change and all other Directors have been consulted in the preparation of this report and its Appendices.
- **NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Council Delivery Plan 2025/26