This report seeks approval to the content of the draft corporate plan for 2011-15 and to proposals relating to the conduct of a public consultation exercise on the content of the draft plan.

The Committee:

i) Approve the terms of the draft corporate plan 2011-15 as attached.

ii) Agree a public consultation exercise be conducted on the content of the draft corporate plan as outlined in Section 4 of this report.

The council’s corporate improvement plan agreed at the meeting of Angus Council on 10 June 2010 includes a commitment to develop a new corporate plan for the council for the period 2011-15 and to consult with the public on the content of that plan.

The purpose of the corporate plan is to set out the vision, values, priorities and key areas of work on which the council will focus.

It provides a framework for elected members, employees, partners and the Angus community setting out what we want to achieve, how we organise ourselves to achieve our ambitions and how we hold ourselves to account.

A draft corporate plan for the period 2011-15 is attached.

A significant amount of work has gone into the development of the draft and the content has been informed by the outcome from two ‘planning sessions’ – one held in September attended by some 50 senior managers from across the council and one held in November attended by 16 elected members.

The draft plan addresses the following questions:

- What is our vision for the county?
- What are our priorities for the county?
- What areas of work are we as a council going to focus on?
- What are the values which underpin what we do?
- How will we know that we are achieving what we set out to do?
- How will the public and our partners know how we are doing?
- What do we do to manage ourselves so that we can assure others that we are an efficient, successful organisation?

It is also designed to reflect our role as lead in the Angus Community Planning Partnership and the important contribution which we make as an organisation towards achievement of the outcomes in the single outcome agreement.
Accordingly the plan has been drafted on the basis that as a council we adopt the same vision, values and priorities as those we have agreed with our partners within the partnership, and the areas of work which it is proposed we focus on over the period of the plan against each priority have been designed to contribute towards achievement of the outcomes agreed with our partners within the single outcome agreement.

Members are asked to note that the ‘Managing Our Business’ section of the draft plan which deals with ourselves as an organisation and how we manage our business is a new addition to the corporate plan. It is designed to give assurance to the public and our partners that as an organisation we are an efficient business with sound planning and performance arrangements.

It should also be noted that the draft plan does not contain actions. The purpose of the plan is to set out our strategic direction. Specific actions required to achieve our stated outcomes will be planned and delivered by services and agreed by service committees year on year in service improvement plans and through the annual budget setting process. Similarly actions to improve our business, planning and performance arrangements will be outlined within our corporate improvement plan.

Finally, members are asked to note that work on the draft plan has to date purely concentrated on content and work on layout and design and a summarised version for public consumption will be finalised following the consultation exercise referred to below.

4 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As indicated in section 2 above, the council is committed to consulting with the public on the content of the draft corporate plan.

In this regard it is proposed that a media campaign be undertaken to inform the public that the council is seeking views on the content of the draft corporate plan and advising on how the public can get access to, and respond to, the draft plan.

The draft plan would be available to the public within libraries and ACCESS offices and through the council’s website. It would also be sent direct to community councils and local area partnerships.

Comments would be sought on the draft plan by no later than 30 March following which it would be the intent to finalise the plan and submit it to the meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee on 3 May 2011 for final approval.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be minor costs associated with the copying and distribution of the draft corporate plan to facilitate public consultation. These costs are estimated to be no more than £300 and will be met from the Chief Executive’s Department revenue budget.

6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

7 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

8 CONSULTATION

The Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Administration have been consulted on the terms of this report.

DAVID S SAWERS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

NOTE No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.