Recovery Plan – Governance Framework

Summary:

As the Council embarks on its recovery plan it is essential that we have an appropriate governance framework in place to steer this important piece of work.

Background:

The impact of COVID-19 on the council, and on our communities is significant and will be long lasting. As the Council embarks on its recovery plan it is important that effective governance is in place so that the work can progress in a way that is agile and controlled. Input from members will be crucial, but excessive involvement from various different angles could potentially distract officers, create potential for confusion and hamper the recovery work.

This paper sets out a suggested approach to creating a governance structure that involves members.
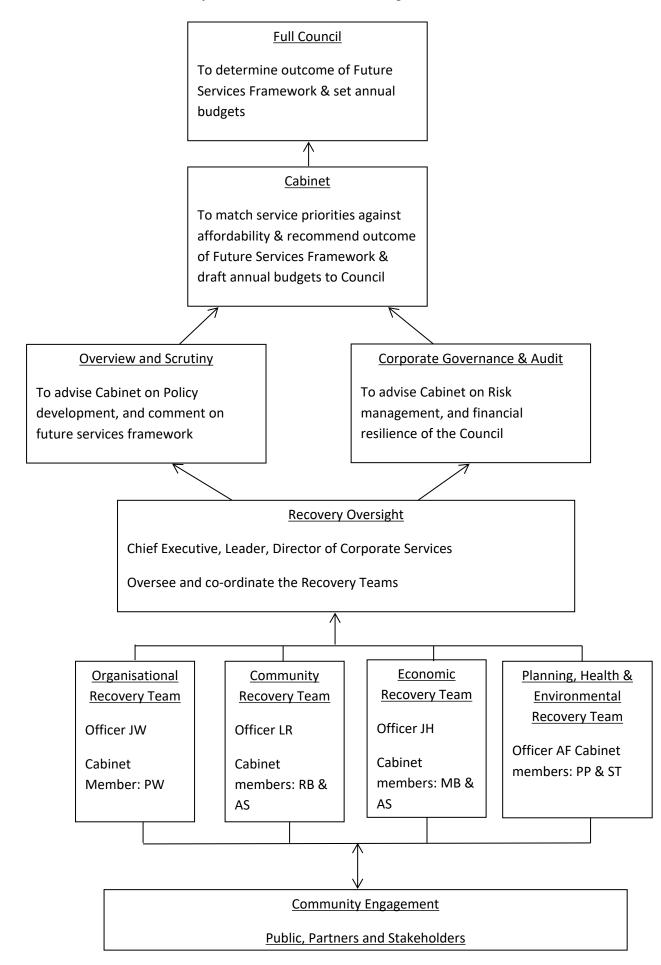
Proposal:

The proposal is to have recovery work structured into four themes. Each of these would have a Director as the lead officer, working closely with the relevant cabinet member(s). These would be the 4 Recovery Teams, drawing in officer support, partners, stakeholders, and the public as necessary. Each cabinet member may invite up to 2 other members (one of whom should be from an opposition group) to act as advisors to them and their recovery team.

The four Recovery Teams will be coordinated by the Leader, Chief Executive and the S151 officer ie the Director of Corporate Services. This will provide oversight, monitor progress and coordinate resources.

The Recovery Teams will make recommendations to O&S in relation to policy decisions including service priorities, and to CGAC in relation to the financial position of the Council.

Cabinet will then receive the recommendations form O&S, and CGAC. Taking these views into account, Cabinet will then consider the shape of the Council for the future, and make its final recommendations to Council.

This approach means that both O&S and CGAC are fully engaged in areas that are entirely consistent with their constitutional remit.

Recovery Plan – Governance Arrangements

Full Council

To determine outcome of Future Services Framework & set annual budgets

Cabinet

To match service priorities against affordability & recommend outcome of Future Services Framework & draft annual budgets to Council

Overview and Scrutiny

To advise Cabinet on Policy development, and comment on future services framework

Corporate Governance & Audit

To advise Cabinet on Risk management, and financial resilience of the Council

Recovery Oversight

Chief Executive, Leader, Director of Corporate Services

Oversee and co-ordinate the Recovery Teams

Organisational Recovery Team

Officer JW

Cabinet Member: PW

Community Recovery Team

Officer LR

Cabinet members: RB & AS

Economic Recovery Team

Officer JH

Cabinet members: MB & AS

Planning, Health & Environmental Recovery Team

Officer AF Cabinet members: PP & ST

Community Engagement

Public, Partners and Stakeholders