

**P1 Delivering
For Norwich**

Picture to be added on page 2 as original

**P3 Norwich City Council
Delivering for Norwich
Corporate Plan 2008-10**

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Statement on contracts

In 2007/08 Norwich City Council did not enter into any contracts that involved the transfer of staff to an external service provider. All contracts let complied with best value requirements.

Foreword

Norwich has been a success story for almost 1,000 years. It is a modern city with a historic heart; it is vibrant and it is growing fast. Its economic, social, cultural and environmental influence is out of all proportion to its size, and extends far beyond its boundaries. Norwich's importance to the people of Norfolk and the wider region is clear.

The city and the City Council now face a period of major change and this plan therefore takes a longer term view through to March 2010. Over the next 2 years we will focus on two main areas of challenge:

- Continuing our improvement journey – a recent independent peer review has shown that we have come a long way, but there is still more to do
- Continuing our work to deliver our ambition of achieving unitary status for greater Norwich and our belief that one council for Norwich, rather than the four which currently serve the city, will make services more efficient, clearer and more accessible for local people

This corporate plan sets out our “road map” of how we will play our part in improving our already successful city. It aims to make strong connections between the Sustainable Community Strategy agreed by the City of Norwich Partnership, this Corporate Plan, Service Plans and political priorities agreed by Members. To achieve this we are re-focusing our vision to provide:

- **A strong and prosperous city** - Norwich faces major growth over the next 20 years. But we want to build communities, not just buildings - growth should be people led. It must be both sustainable and responsible, allowing Norwich to grow and change while nurturing the historic and unique character of the city.
- **Safe and Healthy Neighbourhoods** – we will also seek to develop stronger neighbourhood empowerment and engagement. There are a range of innovative initiatives already underway, but we want to provide opportunities for local people to have pride in their neighbourhoods & to have a strong voice to influence improvements in local services
- **Putting people and culture at the heart of all we do** - our city has significant social problems – it is the second most deprived district in the eastern region, with eight of our 13 wards in the top 20% most deprived in the country. Norwich also has low levels of educational attainment, high levels of homelessness and pockets of significant health need. It is a real “tale of two cities”, with a variation of 4.9 years in life expectancy between the wealthiest and poorest parts of the city.

This plan sets out how we intend to deliver the needs of the people and the city for today and how we prepare for the opportunities and challenges for the future. I hope you find it both inspiring and interesting, and I look forward to working with you to make the best possible future for our city for the benefit of all local people.

Councillor Steve Morphew

Leader, Norwich City Council

Picture to be added of Councillor Steve Morphew as original

Purpose of the Corporate Plan

The purpose of this corporate plan is to provide an overall high-level summary of Norwich City Council's work – looking back at the council's performance last year (2007/08), and looking forward at our plans and priorities for the next two years (2008/10). It also looks at how our objectives fit in with those of our major partners, and how our collective plans will ensure the positive growth and development of the city. Together with the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), which sets out the financial strategy which underpins our work, and the People Plan which sets out key priorities for people management which will support our change programme, this plan represents a strategic overview of what we are doing to ensure the health, wealth and happiness of local people.

Where are we now?

Norwich has a rich and distinguished history as a major city that ran its own affairs until local government re-organisation in 1974. But our eyes are very much on the future of a city which already provides 39% of the jobs in the county and has the largest economy in the eastern region and the fifth most popular retail centre in England. The potential for further growth is significant and this has been recognised in the draft Regional Economic Strategy for the East of England which recognises Greater Norwich as an “engine of growth” which will drive growth within the region.

Where do we want to be?

In order to achieve its aims, Norwich City Council works within national and regional frameworks - and with partner organisations - to ensure that we are working to shared goals which directly meet people's needs. Here, we set out the overall vision for the city as a whole, and what part the city council plays in achieving that vision, and our medium-term priorities.

How will we get there?

The Aiming for Excellence Programme, our Unitary Programme and the Strategic Management Framework all form the basis upon which the council will fulfil its role as community leader and provide services throughout the coming year. This section will show how the framework is made up and how the council's ambitions are aligned with those of the city as a whole.

We hope you find the corporate plan useful. It is not intended to set out everything we do, and it is underpinned by a wide range of other key strategies that explain our plans in much more detail. These are highlighted throughout the document, and if you would like any copies you can find them on our website at www.norwich.gov.uk, or contact us at rogerdenton@norwich.gov.uk