



CABINET - 21 JULY 2026

STRATEGIC PLAN (2027 – 2031) CONSULTATION

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, COMMUNITIES,
LAW AND GOVERNANCE**

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to consult with residents, stakeholders and employees on the key elements of the draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031), which is attached as Appendix A to this report.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet
 - (a) Approves the draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031), appended to the report, for consultation;
 - (b) Considers a further report at its meeting on 17 November 2026 presenting the outcomes of the consultation and seeking approval for the revised draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) to the County Council for approval.

(KEY DECISION)

Reasons for Recommendation

3. The current Strategic Plan expires at the end of 2026 and therefore a revised draft Plan, covering the period from 2027 – 2031, has been developed.
4. Consultation on the key elements of the draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) will help to ensure that the Council's ambitions for Leicestershire are informed by local insight, reflect community priorities and support effective and deliverable outcomes.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

5. It is intended that the public consultation on the Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) will begin on 27 July 2026 and close on 9 October 2026.
6. It is intended that the Scrutiny Commission will receive a report as part of the consultation exercise at its meeting on 2 September 2026.
7. A further report detailing the responses to the consultation will be presented to the Cabinet on 17 November 2026. The Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) will require approval by full Council on 2 December 2026.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

8. The refresh of the Strategic Plan supports the Council's long-term vision for Leicestershire and ensures it reflects current priorities.

Resource Implications

9. The costs associated with undertaking the consultation will be met from within current budgets and using existing consultation and engagement resources and communication channels.
10. The outcomes identified within the Strategic Plan will be delivered within existing resources.
11. The Director of Corporate Resources has been consulted on the contents of this report.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

12. This report will be circulated to all members of the County Council.

Officer(s) to Contact

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PART B

Background

13. The Council's current Strategic Plan was approved in 2022 to cover a four-year period to 2026. The Strategic Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework as set out in the Constitution and provides the overarching framework for decision making and service planning.
14. As the current Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026) approaches the end of its lifecycle, the Council has undertaken development of a new Strategic Plan covering 2027 – 2031. A refreshed Strategic Plan provides an opportunity to establish a revised vision, outcomes and priorities that maintains a focus on delivering positive outcomes for Leicestershire residents.
15. A refreshed Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) has been developed, and consultation of the key elements of the draft Plan is proposed to ensure it is informed by the views of residents and stakeholders before the final Plan is submitted for approval.
16. The draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) brings together a shared vision for the county: a place that is strong and resilient, where communities thrive, the economy grows, and people are supported to live well.
17. The draft Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) acknowledges that Local Government Reorganisation presents a period of significant change. The Plan aims to provide a clear and stable foundation during that transition, setting out priorities for maintaining strong day-to-day services and ensuring the County continues to be well governed. It maintains a focus on stability and resilience, while supporting the organisation to adapt and prepare for the future.

Consultation

18. The Strategic Plan consultation will take place from 27 July to 9 October 2026, and will provide Members, partners, stakeholders and residents the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Plan. The consultation will seek views on the draft vision, outcomes and priorities.
19. The consultation will target residents, local business leaders, community groups, partners organisations and staff members. It will utilise multiple communication channels, including a webpage, video explainer, media release and social media activity. A survey will be published on the County Council's website, seeking feedback on the vision, outcomes and priorities.

20. Appendix B sets out the proposed questions for the online survey.

Equality Implications

21. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken as part of the development of the Strategic Plan (2027 to 2031). The draft Plan is intended to support positive outcomes for all residents of Leicestershire. The EIA will be considered throughout the consultation.

Human Rights Implications

22. There are no human rights implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Background Papers

Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026) (previous plan)
<https://democracy.leics.gov.uk/documents/s168909/Appendix%20A%20-%20LCC%20Strategic%20Plan%202022-26.pdf>

Appendices

Appendix A: Draft Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031)

Appendix B: Strategic Plan (2027 – 2031) Online Survey.