

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 2022

Report Title	UBICO FIVE YEAR VISION AND BUSINESS PLAN 2021/2022			
Purpose of Report	To provide an update on the Ubico Five Year Vision and Business Plan 2022/2023.			
Decision(s)	The Council RESOLVES to Note the Business Plan for 2022/23			
Consultation and Feedback	Officers and shareholders; Environment Committee in December 2021, Alliance Group Leaders and Chair of Environment Committee.			
Report Author	Kathy O’Leary, Chief Executive Email: kathy.oleary@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The report is for information only.			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A - Ubico Five Year Vision and Business Plan 2022/2023			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Stroud District Council has a multi-service contract with Ubico to provide the collection of waste and recycling, street cleaning, grounds maintenance and building cleaning. Ubico is a teckal company wholly owned by local authorities including Stroud District Council.
- 1.2 The annual business plan is produced by Ubico and taken to the Directors and Shareholders meetings in February / March of each year for agreement for the following financial year. Directors and Shareholders meet quarterly to progress the business plan and monthly meetings are held with officers to discuss operational performance. The Head of Community Services sits as a director on the Ubico Board and the Chief Executive fulfils the shareholder function for the Council.
- 1.3 Whilst the Chief Executive has authority as the shareholder representative to approve the business plan, it is being brought to Council for Members to note and consider.

2. BUSINESS PLAN 2022/2023

- 2.1 In 2019, it was agreed that the Council’s Environment Committee would have early sight of the draft business plan prior to its consideration by director and shareholder sign-off meetings, to allow for Members’ comments to be considered prior to the plan being finalised and endorsed by shareholders.

- 2.2 At the Environment Committee on 9 December 2021, Ubico's Managing Director gave a presentation which included outlining the business plan themes for 2022/2023. Similar presentations were made to groups and committees at each Ubico council.
- 2.3 The proposals contained in the business plan are built around the four key pillars of People, Operational Excellence, Climate and Business Development and focus on the following themes:
- Leveraging synergies and economies of scale
 - Harnessing opportunities to deliver back to partners
 - Using technology to drive operational efficiency
 - Understanding our communities' needs
 - Inspiring our workforce to be committed to providing value for money and carbon neutral services.
- 2.4 The written version of the Business Plan for 2022/2023 was shared with the board of directors and shareholders in February / March and councils were asked for any further feedback.
- 2.5 The resulting final version of the business plan is attached here. It is intended to publish the plan in May 2022 once the shareholders have signed off the written resolution to approve it.
- 2.6 Ubico will submit individual business cases for approval as appropriate to support potential investment proposals within the 2022/2023 Business Plan, to develop areas of the business identified as having potential to deliver greater value for shareholders.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Members are recommended to note the Business Plan for the financial year 2022/2023 which can be found at appendix A.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

An annual contract sum is reviewed and agreed with Ubico as part of the budget setting process and considered by full Council each February.

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4.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

One Legal
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4.3 Equality Implications

Ubico's Business Plan promotes equality of access to essential services.

4.4 Environmental Implications

The Business Plan supports the Council's environmental and climate change priorities.