

Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford

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Dear Members

Resources Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Resources Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Monday 25 November 2024** at **6.30pm in the Craddock Room, Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford** to deal with the business as set out on the agenda.

Please note that this meeting will be recorded.

Members are reminded that contact officers are shown at the top of each report and members are welcome to raise questions etc in advance of the meeting with the appropriate officer.

Head of Law and Governance

I. Cum

RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 NOVEMBER 2024

Chair - Councillor M J Winnington

AGENDA

1	Minutes of 2 Ju	ly 2024 as previously published on the Council's we	bsite	9	
2	Apologies				
3	Public Question	n Time - Nil			
4	Councillor Sess	sion - Nil			
			Pag	ge	Nos
5	Called in Items	- Nil			
6	Members' Item	s - Nil			
7	Officers' Repor	ts			
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	ITEM NO 7(b)	Review of the Constitution	36	-	38
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	ITEM NO 7(c)	Work Programme	39	-	42

Membership

HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

Chair - Councillor M J Winnington

K M Aspin	B McKeown
E L Carter	A Nixon
M G Dodson	J S Powell
R A James	J P Read
A M Loughran	M J Winnington

Agenda Item 7(a)

Quarter 2 Performance Report for 2024-25

Committee: Resources

Date of Meeting: 25 November 2024

Report of: Head of Transformation and Assurance

Portfolio: Councillor R P Cooke, Resources Portfolio

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To advise Members on the progress in delivering the Council's priorities and performance at the end of the quarter 2 for 2024-25.

2 Recommendations

2.1 To note the progress made during quarter 2 in the delivery of the Council's priorities and performance as set out in **APPENDICES 1 AND 2**.

Reasons for Recommendations

2.2 The performance information allows Cabinet to monitor progress in delivery of the Council's corporate priorities and operational services.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 Priority Delivery Plans (PDPs) for 2024/25 have been produced pending the development of a new Corporate Business Plan. They set out the Council's key strategic and operational priorities and the key actions to deliver these.
- 3.2 Overall, 67% of the key actions have been delivered or are on schedule to be completed. Progress in delivering the PDPs is summarised in 5.3 of the report and set out in detail in **APPENDICES 1A TO 1D**.
- 3.3 With regard to the operational performance of the key services of the Council, 52% of targets have been met or exceeded. Further details can be found at 5.6 and in APPENDIX 2.

4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities

4.1 The indicators and actions contribute individually to all of the Council's priorities.

5 Report Detail

5.1 The Corporate Business Plan 2021-24 sets out the Council's overarching priorities. Pending the development of the new corporate business plan, the overarching priority themes remain the same but new priority delivery plans have been developed setting out the key strategic and operational priority projects and the key actions to deliver these.

Priority Delivery Plans

- 5.2 The Priority Delivery Plans are set out in **APPENDICES 1A TO 1D**, to this report. These plans establish the actions and timetable for delivery and form the basis of the Council's performance reporting framework.
- 5.3 A commentary on performance and a rating for each of the actions set out in the Delivery Plans is given in **APPENDICES 1A TO 1D**. A summary of progress, by rating, is given in table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of progress in delivery of key projects/actions for Quarter 1

Performance Rating	Action completed	Work on Target	Work < 3 months behind schedule	Work > 3 months behind schedule	Actions due Quarter 2	Actions not yet due	Total Number of Actions
Corporate Business Plan Priority	*	√		*		N/A	
The Economy	3	1	4		8	19	27
Community	4		1		5	19	24
Climate Change					0	3	3
The Council	3	3	2		8	9	17
Total	10	4	7		21	50	71

- 5.4 At the end of quarter 2, of the 21 projects/actions due for delivery in this period:
 - 14 (67%) have been completed or are on target to be completed; and
 - 7 (33%) are behind schedule.

Key Performance Indicators

5.5 In addition to the Delivery Plans, performance is also reported against the delivery of key operational services; Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for these services are set out in **APPENDIX 2**. In summary:

Table 2 - Summary of key performance indicators for Quarter 1

Corporate Business Plan Priority	*	√		×	N/A	Total Number of KPIs
	Performance exceeds target	Performance on target	Performance < 5% below target	Performance > 5% below target	Not Available / Annual	
The Economy	3		1	1	2 awaited	7
Community	5	3	4	1	6	19
The Council	3		3	1	6	13
Total	11	3	8	3	12 + 2 awaited	39

5.6 Of the 27 indicators due to be reported on in quarter 2:

- 14 indicators show performance on or above target (52%);
- 11 indicators show performance below target (41%); and
- 2 are awaited (7%).

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report. The financial management of the PDPs is standard in accordance with Financial Regulations and any measure to address a performance shortfall as reflected in a PDP report will require compensatory savings to be identified in the current year and be referred to the budget process for additional resources in future years.

6.2 Legal

None

6.3 Human Resources

None

6.4 Risk Management

The Council's Strategic Risk Register sets out the risks the Council faces in delivering its priorities.

6.5 Equalities and Diversity

Equality and diversity matters are addressed in individual services areas and by undertaking equality impact assessments for projects and programmes of work where this is necessary and appropriate.

6.6 Health

None

6.7 Climate Change

None

7 Appendices

Appendix 1A: The Economy Appendix 1B: Community Appendix 1C: Climate Change Appendix 1D: The Council

Appendix 2: Key Performance Indicators

8 Previous Consideration

None

9 Background Papers

Corporate Plan 2021-24

Contact Officer: Judith Aupers

Telephone Number: 01543 46411

Ward Interest:

Report Track: Cabinet 05/12/24

Resources Scrutiny Committee

Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Key Decision: No

Priority Delivery Plan for 2024-25

Priority 1 - The Economy Summary of Progress as at end of Quarter 2

Quarter	*	*		×	Total Number of Projects
	Action completed	Work on target	Work < 3 months behind schedule	Work > 3 months behind schedule	
1 and 2	3	1	4		8
3					10
4					9
TOTAL	3	1	4		8 to Q2

Summary of Successes as at Quarter 2

Planning consent secured for the demolition of the former Co-op department store and the Guildhall Shopping Centre National Planning Policy Framework consultation - submission of consultation response.

Summary of Slippage as at Quarter 2

Delays to Stafford Station Gateway project as the Council is yet to receive confirmation of the funding award from MHCLG. Delay in introducing S106 monitoring fees and commencing review of S106 policy and procedures.

Priority 1 - The Economy

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
Delivery of major economic growth regeneration	Stafford Town Centre Transformation (Future High Street Fund)						
projects	Commence work on Station Approach project		Х			Works are now scheduled to commence in early 2025	
	Conclude acquisition of former Co-operative department store		X			Contracts set to exchange/complete in early November 2024	
	Secure planning consents for demolition of Guildhall Shopping Centre and former Co-operative department store			Х			
	Commence demolition works to Guildhall Shopping Centre			Х			
	Commence demolition works to former Co-operative department store			Х			
	Identify development delivery route for cleared Guildhall and Co-op sites including delivery model, scheme development mix, funding model and procurement and details of public consultation				X		

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Stafford Station Gateway						
	 Establish Programme Board and governance arrangements 		X			Confirmation of Levelling Up Funding award from MHCLG is still outstanding	
	 Acquisition of commercial interests (subject to confirmation of Levelling Up Funding award from MHCLG) 			Х			
	Commence remediation works on site (subject to confirmation of Levelling Up Funding award from MHCLG)				Х		
	UK Shared Prosperity Fund						
	Implement and deliver the UKSPF projects in year 3 of the Council's approved Investment Plan, working towards full allocation of spend by 31 March 2025 and delivery of outputs				х		
Local Plan	National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation response & local impacts		X			Consultation response submitted	*

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	 Review of evidence base for new Local Plan Review approach to Development Strategy for new Local Plan 			X			
	 Revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) and Local Plan resource requirements including evidence base Agree approach to Design Coding and Conservation Area Appraisals 				X		
Development Management	Re-introduce pre-application advice on a chargeable basis			Х			
service improvement and transformation	Commission External review of Development Management service		Х			Consultant has been appointed following a competitive procurement exercise.	*
	Complete External review of Development Management service and development of improvement service delivery plan			X			
	New Planning system scoping and specification				Х		

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	 Review planning enforcement service provision and protocols/ policy 				X		
Planning Obligations - Review of Policy and Allocations	 Charging schedules for Section 106 and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) monitoring fees Cabinet approval Implementation 		X	X		BNG monitoring fees approved at Cabinet. Draft S106 charging schedule produced; currently finalising report with input from Finance.	
	Implement Exacom system for BNG			Х			
	 Planning Obligations Working Group Establish group and terms of reference Agree governance and schedule of meetings 		X			Report to return to Leadership Team but has not been signed off by Finance. Still awaiting comments. Governance and meeting schedule to follow once report signed off.	
	Programme & Project Allocations including Cannock Chase SAC and Leisure through updated evidence base				X		

Appendix 1A

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
Land Charges	Full review of Land Charges service to include a review of current processes and IT system		X			Land Charges service review complete. Review of IT systems carried out and recommendations made for replacement system. Processes under review to align with replacement system	*
	Transformation of Land Charges scoped and timeline in place to drive this forward			Х			
	Procure replacement IT System				Х		
	Working towards transformed service				Х		

Priority Delivery Plan for 2024-25

Priority 2 - The Community

Summary of Progress as at end of Quarter 2

Quarter	*	√		*	Total Number of Projects
	Action completed	Work on target	Work < 3 months behind schedule	Work > 3 months behind schedule	
1&2	4		1		5
3					7
4					12
TOTAL	4 (80%)		1 (20%)		5 up to Q2

Summary of Successes as at Quarter 2

Health inequalities funded projects all successfully completed, utilising all £193,833 of allocated external funding.

Summary of Slippage as at Quarter 1

Delay in commencing water testing program due to limited availability of specialist contractor. Testing will commence Q3

Priority 2 - The Community

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
Housing and Homelessness Strategy and approach to building new Council homes	Prepare documents to commission Stafford Housing Strategy including approach to developing Council Housing			Х			
	Start procurement for Stafford Housing Strategy				Х		
	Prepare documents to commission consultants to scope the feasibility of a housing development on Council owned land			Х			
	Start procurement to scope the feasibility of development on a Council owned site				Х		
	Completion of Stafford Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy				Х		
Review of the Leisure, Culture and Heritage Contract	Finalise Freedom Leisure Strategic Partnership Plan				Х		
Design and Deliver Stafford Borough's approach to Health	Complete delivery of health inequalities funded projects		Х			All funded projects successfully completed.	*

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Evaluation of health inequalities funded projects to inform future activity			X			
	Commence work on drafting Community Wellbeing Strategy, setting out priorities across community safety and health				X		
Waste and Recycling - Kerbside collection	Review current waste collection service			Х			
contract (2025-2032)	Review potential extension options with incumbent waste collection contractor				Х		
	Report to Cabinet on extension option or reprocurement requirement				Х		
Waste and Recycling - Introduction of mandatory food	Design of new service model and discussions with contractor			Х			
waste kerbside collections [* denotes action subject to confirmation of government funding	Consider and action revenue settlement offered by Government			X*			
settlement]	Cabinet approval for new service, start date, and permission to spend				X*		

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Prepare to tender for the procurement of food waste caddies				X*		
Tree Management (OP3)	Review current services and establish requirements (including Tree Protection Orders)				X		
Play Area / Parks Improvements (OP4)	Review condition of current play areas and funding availability for improvements and cyclical maintenance			Х			
	Create improvement programme				Х		
Private Water Supply (OP6)	Review of current position	X				Review undertaken, follow up carried out on audit reports to understand current position of the service to facilitate required changes	*
	Ensure staff have undergone training and are certified competent to deliver this testing regime	X				Water sampling training completed by 2 members of staff, who are now competent to carry out water sampling activities	*
	Formulate a delivery plan for testing for all supplies due to be tested		Х			Delivery Plan has been formulated and high-risk supplies identified. Specialist contractor commissioned to lead on complex supplies will commence sampling in Q3	*

Appendix 1B

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Commence testing program		Х			Due to limited availability of specialist contractor, testing will commence Q3	
	Complete testing program for 24/5. Plan program from 25/6				Х		

Priority Delivery Plan for 2024-25

Priority 3 - Climate Change Summary of Progress as at end of Quarter 2

Quarter	*	✓		×	Total Number of Projects
	Action completed	Work on target	Work < 3 months behind schedule	Work > 3 months behind schedule	
1 and 2					0
3					3
4					0
TOTAL					0 due to Q2

Summary of Successes as at Quarter 2

No actions due in this quarter

Summary of Slippage as at Quarter 2

Priority 3 - Climate Change

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
Climate Change Strategy	Revised Climate Change Strategy developed and in place			X			
	Recruitment of staff to support delivery of strategy and monitor operational delivery			Х			
	New Governance Structure in place to track operational delivery			Х			

Priority Delivery Plan for 2024-25

Priority 4 - The Council Summary of Progress as at end of Quarter 2

Quarter	*	✓		*	Total Number of Projects
	Action completed	Work on target	Work < 3 months behind schedule	Work > 3 months behind schedule	
1&2	3	3	2		8
3					4
4					5
TOTAL	3	3	2		8 to end Q2

Summary of Successes as at Quarter 2

Work on upgrading the Council's infrastructure has commenced. The new switches have been procured and work is underway to plan for their installation.

Summary of Slippage as at Quarter 2

There has been some slippage on the Transformation and Digital strategies. Both strategies have been drafted and considered by Leadership Team. They are being amended and will be submitted to Cabinet for approval in quarter 3.

Priority 4 - The Council

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
Closure of the Accounts	Closure of the accounts 23/24				X		
	Catch up on closure of previous years accounts			Х			
Transformation Strategy and Plan	Approval of the Transformation Strategy and Plan		Х			The strategy has been drafted and considered by Leadership Team. Strategy to be amended and submitted to Cabinet early in Q3	
	Brief Senior Management Team on the strategy		Х			Completed	*
	Complete scoping work to support development of the Transformation work programme			Х			
	Develop the Transformation work programme				Х		
Digital Strategy	Finalise the digital technology strategy		Х			The strategy has been drafted and considered by Leadership Team. Strategy to be amended and submitted to Cabinet early in Q3	
	Procurement of switches for Infrastructure Upgrade	X				Procurement completed.	*

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Plan for installation of new switches		X			Planning has commenced for the installation of the new switches. Plan will be completed early in Q3	√
	Installation of new switches				Х		
	Identify IT systems in need of replacing over next 3 years		Х			Completed - systems have been identified	*
	Assessment and prioritisation of systems to be replaced		Х			The list of systems to be replaced has been reviewed and priorities agreed for the next 3 years. To be discussed and agreed with Leadership Team	✓
	Technology Board to approve systems to be replaced			Х			
	Note - Project plans will be developed for each system once prioritisation has been agreed and the PDP will be updated accordingly						
Strategic asset management	Corporate Assets ICT System						
including the review of key assets	Research Systems available		Х			Alternative systems are being explored - 2 systems demos have been completed	✓

Appendix 1D

Project	Actions and Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Progress Update	Symbol
	Draft specification for new system				Х		
	Insurance Reinstatement Valuations						
	Secure Budget			Х			
	Commission Service Provider to complete Valuations				Х		

Appendix 2

Summary of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for 2024/25 - as at end of Quarter 2

Symbol	Description	The Economy	The Community	The Council	Total
*	Performance exceeds target	3	5	3	11
√	Performance on target		3		3
	Performance < 5% below target	1	4	3	8
×	Performance > 5% below target	1	1	1	3
N/A	Reported Annually / Not Applicable	2 awaited	6	6	12 + 2 awaited
	TOTAL	7	19	13	39

KPIs for Business Objective 1 - The Economy

Symbol	Description	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	End of Year
*	Performance exceeds target	3			
✓	Performance on target				
	Performance < 5% below target	1			
*	Performance > 5% below target	1			
N/A	Reported Annually / Not Applicable	2 awaited			
	TOTAL	7			

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
Planning									
Major Planning Applications determined within time	91.89%	60%	80%	87.5%				*	
Non-major Planning Applications determined within time	78.56%	70%	87.3%	86.1%				*	
Major Planning Applications overturned at appeals as percentage of no. applications determined	New	< 10%	1.7%	Data awaited					Calculation is rolling 2 year period to Q2 24/25
Non-major Planning Applications overturned at appeals as percentage of no. applications determined	New	< 10%	1.3%	Data awaited					Calculation is rolling 2 year period to Q2 24/25
Building Control									
Applications registered and acknowledged within 3 days of valid receipt	98%	95%	94%	92%				×	Staff shortages have slightly delayed the processing of applications.
Full plans applications with initial full assessment within 15 days of valid receipt	85%	80%	78%	87%				*	

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
Customers satisfied or very satisfied with the service	85%	90%	100%	80%					There were very few returns this quarter with one negative response.

KPIs for Business Objective 2 - The Community

Symbol	Description	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	End of Year
*	Performance exceeds target	5			
✓	Performance on target	3			
	Performance < 5% below target	4			
×	Performance > 5% below target	1			
N/A	Reported Annually / Not Applicable	6			
	TOTAL	19			

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments	
Operations - Waste & Recycling										
% collections completed first time	NEW	99.90%	99.96%	99.97%				√	No target previously. Propose target set at 99.90% as target.	
Number of missed bin collections (including assisted) / 100,000 / qtr.	NEW	<40 per 100,000	44 per 100,000	36 per 100,000				*	Not previously reported in this current format. 1,023,000 collections/qtr. (avg)	
% Household waste sent for re-use, recycling and composting	45.4%	48%	52.17%	50.04%				*	Improved quality and reduced material weights have reduced overall tonnages of recycling collected.	
Amount of household residual waste collected per household (Kgs)	109.68 kgs / per qtr.	<448 kgs or 110 kgs / qtr.	109.09 kgs	107.51 kgs				*	Target format changed from per quarter to annual total for consistency.	
Operations - Streetscene										
% residents' satisfied with the appearance of town centres (Stafford / Stone)	97%	90%	95%	93%				√	Surveys taken from customers making contact with the Council	

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
Environmental Health									
% of food businesses inspected	New	100%	27%	45%					Inspections are being carried out in line with risk ratings and backlog is being recovered
% of food businesses inspected which are broadly compliant (rating of 3 or better)	New	N/A	95%	95%				N/A	This is a measure, not a target
% of service requests responded to within target (all service areas)	New	95%	92%	90%					A small number of requests have slightly missed the allocated target response
% Environmental Protection Act permitted processes inspected in line with risk rating	New	100%	28%	52%				1	
% Taxi / PHV fleet inspected	New	90%	27%	41%				×	Small backlog will be recovered during Quarter 3
% Taxi / PHV fleet compliant	New	90%	82%	86%					Trade compliance is not quite at the level expected but is expected to improve

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
% of eligible private water supplies tested and follow up actions completed	New	100%	N/A	N/A				N/A annual target	Specialist contractor to be engaged from Q3 to undertake high risk inspections during Q3 / 4
Leisure									
Annual Report from Freedom Leisure setting out the performance of all facilities, including comparison to previous years as well as narrative on the wider wellbeing work and events they facilitate.								N/A	Annual report only
Housing Assistance									
No of DFGs completed		125	21	42				*	Quarterly Targets: 20, 30, 30, 45 And annual report with wider data.
Strategic Housing & Home	elessness								
% households had a positive outcome and secured accommodation for 6 + months	New	41%	57%	60%				*	Target compared to previous quarters national average

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
Delivery of affordable housing per year working with Registered Providers, Developers and Homes England		210 homes						N/A	Annual figure rather than quarterly reporting
Community Safety & Parti	nerships								
Number of residents/cases dealt with via the CAB	New	N/A	689	656				N/A	Contextual information only
Total value of financial outcomes achieved as a result of the CAB contract	New	N/A Measu re only	£1,476, 609	£1,056, 239				N/A	Dealt with debt of nearly £1.3m.
Community Safety Partnership Hub referrals and case closures within 3 months	New	90% closed within 3 months	32 referrals 91% closed	31 referrals 85% closed					This can be a measure of effectiveness - i.e. resolution provided or "managed risk" achieved. Some cases, however, require more significant work to reach this point, and need to remain open longer. This is the situation at this time.

KPIs for Business Objective 4 - The Council

Symbol	Description	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	End of Year
*	Performance exceeds target	3			
✓	Performance on target				
	Performance < 5% below target	3			
×	Performance > 5% below target	1			
N/A	Reported Annually / Not Applicable	6			
	TOTAL	13			

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments
Local Taxation and Benefit	ts								
Days taken to process new HB/CT Claims	29.1	20 days	27.6	20.8					Performance in August and September was better than target
Days taken to process new HB/CT change of circumstances	7.1	9 days	8.3	3.3				*	
% of Council Tax collected annually	97.6%	98% by year end	28.8%	55.8%					
% National non-domestic rates (NNDR) collected	97.9%	98% by year end	31.2%	50.2%					
Transformation & Assuran	ce								
% of calls answered	92%	94%	95.8%	97.8%				*	
Average call wait time	1.42	2 min	1.07	0.38				*	
Number of calls answered	New	N/A	14747	14134				N/A	This is not a measure but gives context to the performance in call handling

Indicator	Year End 23/24	Target 24/25	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year End 24/25	Rating Symbol	Comments		
Law & Governance											
FOI requests within time i.e. 20 working days	New	85%	77%	76%				×			
Corporate Assets											
% of buildings with a valid annual landlord Gas Safety Record	New	100%							Annual KPI		
% of buildings with a valid Electrical Certificate (within 5 years)	New	100%							Annual KPI		
% of passenger lifts that have a valid 6 monthly thorough examination record	New	100%							Annual KPI		
% of buildings that have a current Legionella risk assessment	New	100%							Annual KPI		
% of buildings that have a current Fire risk assessment	New	100%							Annual KPI		

Agenda Item 7(b)

Review of the Constitution

Committee: Resources Scrutiny

Date of Meeting: 25 November 2024

Report of: Head of Law and Governance

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To agree the mechanism with which to undertake the annual review of the Constitution.

2 Recommendation / Proposal of Cabinet Member

2.1 That Committee establish a Task and Finish Review Working Group in order to undertake a review of the Council's current Constitution.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation

Summary of Key Issues

3.1 The review of the Council's Constitution falls under the remit of the Resources Scrutiny Committee, and the Monitoring Officer is required to review the Constitution on an annual basis.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.2 Changes to the Constitution need to be approved by the Council after consideration of a recommendation by Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.3 The Committee are requested to establish a Task and Finish Review Working Group in order to undertake a review of the Council's current Constitution.
- 3.4 In the interim, Members and Officers will be requested to inform the Monitoring Officer of any issues in the Constitution that they feel should be reviewed.

4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities/Corporate Business Objectives

4.1 The Constitution supports all of the Council's Corporate Priorities.

5 Report Detail

- 5.1 The Constitution requires the Monitoring Officer to annually review the Constitution.
- 5.2 As in previous years, the Scrutiny Committee are requested to establish a Task and Finish Review Working Group, with all Members of the Council invited, to undertake a review of the Constitution.
- 5.3 The proposed dates and times of the Review of the Constitution Task and Finish Review Working Group are as follows:-
 - 5.30 pm on Tuesday 21 January 2025
 - 5.30 pm on Thursday 13 February 2025
 - 5.30 pm on Wednesday 5 March 2025 (Followed by the scheduled Resources Scrutiny Committee on that evening to confirm the amendments)
- 5.4 Members, and Officers, will be requested to inform Monitoring Officer of any issues in the Constitution that they feel should be reviewed.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

Nil

6.2 Legal

Nil

6.3 Human Resources

Nil

6.4 Risk Management

Nil

6.5 Equality and Diversity

Nil

6.6 Climate Change

Nil

7 Appendices

Appendix 1:

8 Previous Consideration

Nil

9 Background Papers

Nil

Contact Officer: lan Curran

Telephone Number: 01785 619220

Ward Interest: Nil

Report Track: Resources 25 November 2024 and 5 March 2025;

Council 8 April 2025

Key Decision: N/A

Work Programme - Resources Scrutiny Committee

Committee: Resources Scrutiny

Date of Meeting: 25 November 2024

Report of: Head of Law and Governance

Portfolio: Resources

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Resources Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme

2 Recommendations

2.1 That the report be noted.

Reasons for Recommendations

2.2 The first stage in achieving a Member-led Overview and Scrutiny process is to develop a Work Programme for the Members of the Committee to own.

3 Key Issues

3.1 Accordingly, an up-to-date copy of the Resources Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme is provided for Members to consider or amend as appropriate.

4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities

4.1 This report is most closely associated with the following Corporate Business Objective 3:-

To be a well-run, financially sustainable and ambitious organisation responsive to the needs of our customers and communities and focussed on delivering our objectives.

5 Report Detail

- 5.1 Members will recall that one of the fundamental philosophies behind the creation of Overview and Scrutiny is that the process should be Member-led and the first stage in achieving this is to develop a Work Programme that is:-
 - Owned by all Members of the Scrutiny Committee;
 - Flexible to allow the Committee to react to urgent items;
 - Contain aspects of both Overview and Scrutiny.
- 5.2 Therefore, at each scheduled meeting of the Resources Scrutiny Committee, an up-to-date copy of the Work Programme will be provided for Members to consider or amend as appropriate.
- 5.3 The Work Programme includes provision for the Committee to scrutinise appropriate items delivered through the Council's Service Delivery Plan up to twelve months in advance, whilst maintaining the flexibility to respond to any issues that may arise.
- 5.4 Accordingly, attached at **APPENDIX** is the Resources Scrutiny Committee's current Work Programme to consider or amend as appropriate.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

Nil

6.2 Legal

Nil

6.3 Human Resources

Nil

6.4 Risk Management

Nil

6.5 Equalities and Diversity

Nil

6.6 Health

Nil

6.7 Climate Change

Nil

7 Appendices

None

8 Previous Consideration

Nil

9 Background Papers

File available in Law and Administration.

Contact Officer: lan Curran

Telephone Number: 01785 619220

Ward Interest: Nil

Report Track: Resources 25 November 2024 (Only)

Key Decision: N/A

Agenda Items - Resources Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 6:30pm

Report Deadline Monday 23 December 2024

Officer Reports: General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital

Programme

Deputy Chief Executive - Resources

Fees and Charges Review

Deputy Chief Executive - Resources

The Procurement Act

Head of Law and Governance

Work Programme

Head of Law and Governance

Wednesday 5 March 2025 at 6.30pm

Report Deadline: Tuesday 18 February 2025

Officer Reports: Q3 Performance and End of Year Update

Head of Transformation and Assurance

Review of the Constitution Head of Law and Governance

Business Planning Report
Head of Law and Governance

Work Programme

Head of Law and Governance

Future Items:

Procurement

Transformation - priority areas: system upgrades, finance changes

Synergy between CCDC and SBC (shared services)

IT Projects

Approval of business cases