

Key Decision Required	No	In the Forward Plan	No
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CABINET

8 MARCH 2019

REFERENCE REPORT FROM RESOURCES AND SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF 11 FEBRUARY 2019

A.1 PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/2019 THIRD QUARTER

(Report prepared by Ian Ford)

BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 February 2019 (Minute 60 refers) the Committee had had before it a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which presented the Performance Report for Quarter Three (October to December 2019), including the Corporate Plan and Priorities and Projects 2018/19.

Appendix A to that report contained details of the 18 indicators and projects where performance was measured. Of those, 12 (67%) were on, or above, their expected target and 6 (33%) were not currently in line with the expected performance.

Members were informed that the Performance Report for Quarter Three would be presented to Cabinet on 15 February 2019 and that in that report the Local Plan and Garden Community indicators would be shown as “On Target” (rather than “Behind Target”) following the recent approval of the Council’s revised Local Development Scheme by the Planning Policy and Local Plan Committee. Any feedback from the Committee would be presented to a future meeting of the Cabinet as a separate reference report.

The Council’s Human Resources & Business Manager (Katie Wilkins) gave the Committee an update in respect of the indicators and projects with particular focus on those indicators that were currently listed as “Behind Target”.

Officers responded to questions raised by Members on various topics and where an answer was not immediately available, the Human Resources and Business Manager and the Head of IT and Corporate Resilience, as appropriate, undertook to respond to Members as soon as possible after the meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET

Having considered and discussed the information provided it was:-

RESOLVED (a) that this Committee recommends to Cabinet that –

- (1) in relation to the removal of Fly Tipping target future performance reports should also include details of the number of incidents requiring a specialist response and the response times provided. The Committee would also like the recycling service to confirm if there is an SLA requiring specific response times for specialist removals;
- (2) any and all action be undertaken to ensure that, in future, the Head of IT and Corporate Resilience ‘signs off’ on all IT related procurements before any purchase of It related equipment/software etc. is made.

(b) that this Committee comments to Cabinet that –

- (1) it is very disappointed that it has still not yet seen the proposed Recycling Booklet for the public and requires that the booklet be sent digitally to the members of the Committee before it is printed in order that Members can comment on its contents;
- (2) an All Member briefing be arranged to give a further update to Members on the progress of the Local Plan and the NEGC following the recent approval of the Council’s Local Development Scheme by the Planning Policy and Local Plan Committee; and
- (3) in relation to the Recycling Rate target this target should not be listed as being “On Target” if the latest quarterly performance data has not yet been received as it is misleading.

Cabinet is now asked to consider the recommendations and comments of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS’ RESPONSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Responses

The responses of the relevant Portfolio Holders to the recommendations and comments of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee are as follows:-

In relation to Committee recommendation (1) above the Environment Portfolio Holder has responded:-

“I would like to thank the Committee for their comments and I will consult my officers as to the practicalities and work required to provide this information.

Caravans are sometimes burnt out and/or full of rubbish and require action from our waste contractor to attend and clear first before the caravan itself can be removed.

Asbestos is reported and removed by a contractor which is employed via Essex County Council and is usually removed within 10 working days but this can also change due to availability of collection vehicles or any specialist equipment required.

Each case is different due to the location, materials/contents, the amount of waste and therefore it is not possible to specify an exact time frame.”

In relation to Committee recommendation (2) above the Finance and Corporate Resources Portfolio Holder has responded:-

“It is agreed that any procurement in relation to IT systems should be signed off by the Head of IT and Corporate Resilience.”

In relation to Committee comment (1) above the Environment Portfolio Holder has responded:-

“Unfortunately the timing of the Committee and the drafting/approval process has meant that a draft was not available in time for the meeting but I understand that a digital copy has now been sent to all members of the Committee for their comments.”

In relation to Committee comment (2) above the Leader of the Council has responded:-

“Given the scale and importance of these two projects there have been a number of All Member Briefings over the past 2 years. This will continue with the next one likely to be in June 2019 in line with the next key decision milestones for both projects.”

In relation to Committee comment (3) above the Environment Portfolio Holder has responded:-

“This is a matter of presentation. It was not the intention to mislead in any way if that is how it has been interpreted.”

Recommendations to Cabinet

That Cabinet notes the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee’s comments and recommendations and endorses the Leader’s and Portfolio Holders’ responses thereto.