

Report to Cabinet

21 December 2023

Agenda Item: 5

REPORT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER – TRANSFORMATION AND CHANGE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PLAN – ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN ASSURANCE REPORT (QUARTER 2)

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Cabinet with an update on progress against the actions outlined in the Annual Delivery Plan 2023/24, covering the period July – September 2023 (Q2).

Information

- 2. The Nottinghamshire Plan, approved in November 2021, sets out the County Council's 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. The Plan outlines a focus on:
 - Improving health and wellbeing in all our communities
 - Growing our economy and improving living standards
 - Reducing the County's impact on the environment
 - Helping everyone access the best of Nottinghamshire.
- 3. The vision and areas of focus are underpinned by ten ambitions outlined in the plan, and are also supported by strategies and plans developed across Departments, including our Annual Delivery Plan, which sets out the actions we will take in year to further our progress towards meeting our targets. The Annual Delivery Plan for 2023/24 was approved by Cabinet in April 2023.
- 4. The Council has committed to providing progress updates against each Annual Delivery Plan (including updated measures and actions where relevant), which take the form of a quarterly assurance report.
- 5. The Council's assurance reports are published to update on actions as of the end of Q2 (September), as a mid-year update, and Q4 (March) as a year-end annual report. These reports are published on the Nottinghamshire Plan website Our progress | The Nottinghamshire Plan.

Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24 (Quarter 2)

6. A Q2 Assurance Report to support the current Annual Delivery Plan has been produced (**Appendix A**), to monitor progress made to date during 2023/24.

- 7. Of the 99 actions included in the ADP 23/24, 88% (87) are in progress and on track to be delivered on time. Notably, no actions have been designated 'Significant Obstacles to Completion', whilst only 12 (12%) have been highlighted as experiencing some issues. For those actions which are experiencing some issues, further assurance will take place before the end of the financial year, to allow further opportunity for Departments to provide updates and confirm that these actions are being progressed.
- 8. High-level commentary as to progress has been provided, to make clear the direction of the travel to date for 2023/24. Noticeable highlights include;
 - a. Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council have been working with the Government on devolution plans including a package of local powers and funding worth £1.14 billion, from 2024. As an early investment, £18m of funding has been awarded to projects across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham. The largest of which, with an allocation of £9.9m, will help councils to carry out retrofit work on homes to make them more energy efficient. Homes across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire will benefit from the scheme, specifically targeting homes with poor energy efficiency ratings the most poorly insulated and low-income households.
 - b. The Council has agreed proposals to move our civic and democratic base to a new building near Hucknall to bring long-term savings for the taxpayer and environment. These plans are part of a wider buildings' programme which aims to save taxpayers' money by creating more carbon-neutral council buildings, generating income by leasing older buildings with higher running-costs and co-locating with other public organisations.
 - c. Further work is being progressed with the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP) Fusion programme project, to help deliver long term investment in clean energy, including the first partnership meeting being held in early September. This has established a work programme which will help to secure the wider economic impact for our residents and businesses.
 - d. Nottinghamshire County Council's award-winning LED Street Lighting Conversion Project has delivered significant carbon and financial savings to the county. The nineyear project involved replacing almost 95,000 conventional sodium streetlights with environmentally friendly LED lighting across the county's seven district and borough council areas. Over 98% of Nottinghamshire's streetlights are now LED, with mainly specialist and decorative lighting remaining as sodium lanterns.
 - e. The latest programme of school infrastructure improvements worth £9.2m has been agreed by Nottinghamshire County Council. Twenty primary and infant schools will benefit from a range of improvements, dependent on the needs for each school. The works will include roof replacements, drainage improvements as well as energy-efficient lighting and boiler upgrades.
 - f. Whilst there is still more to be done, we have made progress to develop a new vision and set of principles to support young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families, to prepare for adulthood. This has been developed in co-production with young people, people who have been through transitions, parents, carers, NCC colleagues and Health colleagues.
 - g. In developing the Council's approach to provision of community-based preventative support, a paper has been presented to Cabinet on prevention, naming priority places and outlining core principles for prevention that we will work to as a Council. Partnership engagement events are also taking place in priority places and are generating placespecific partnership action plans. Community projects which include improvements to

- sporting facilities, play areas and the local visitor experience are set to share more than £233,500 worth of grants.
- h. Nottinghamshire's All Age Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery service has been commended by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities national and regional teams as we have exceeded our targets for getting more people into treatment for 2023/24.
- i. The Carers and Young Carers Strategy launched in November 2023 through a workshop. The event showcased how the strategy has been fully co-produced by carers with lived experience, and that the voice of the carers is at the heart of the document with what 'good' looks like for them.
- j. The Council, working together with Nottingham City, Derbyshire County and Derby City, have secured £1.6 million from the Department for Education fostering Recruitment and Retention programme. This will allow the four local authorities to invest in new services and approaches to will improve the recruitment and retention of foster carers. This will mean more children in our care will be cared for in a family setting, they will experience greater stability in their care and in turn, it will reduce reliance on more expensive external fostering and residential placements.
- 9. Further details on all of the above can be found in the latest Q2 Report itself, attached as **Appendix A**.

Other Options Considered

10. To not report in year progress publicly. The Council's quarterly reports form part of the monitoring mechanisms by which progress is tracked against The Nottinghamshire Plan. To not report progress on a six-monthly interim basis ahead of the Annual Report would mean Members are not able to take assurance of progress being made in-year.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. To allow Cabinet to note the progress made to date against the Annual Delivery Plan 23/24 and to provide in year assurance against the actions, before the production of the Annual Report in 2024.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Data Protection and Information Governance

14. A summary Data Protection Impact Assessment was completed to ensure clarity on the tools to be used when compiling information. Action was taken where recommended prior to the request for information being sent out across Departments.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

15. A number of actions within the Annual Delivery Plan will enable the Council to better support and safeguard children and adults at risk.

Implications for Residents

16. The Q2 Report provides an update on progress against the actions outlined in the Annual Delivery Plan 2023/24, which show how we will play our part in working towards the healthy, prosperous and greener future that all our communities deserve.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

17. A number of actions within the report will enable the Council to meet its ambitions around sustainability and the environment.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) To note progress to date against the Annual Delivery Plan 2023/24.

COUNCILLOR BRUCE LAUGHTON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
Dr Isobel Fleming, Service Director Transformation and Change –
0115 854 6184, isobel.fleming@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (LPW 22/11/2023)

The recommendations fall within the remit of the Cabinet by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (PA 17/11/2023)

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-2031, Full Council, 25 November 2021
- The Nottinghamshire Plan Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24, Cabinet, 20 April 2023
- Appendix A Q2 Assurance Report (Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All