

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES AND PLACE, AND
OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENT****YOUR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE YOUR FUTURE – DEPARTMENTAL STRATEGY
SIX MONTH REVIEW OF PROGRESS - AND PLACE CORE DATA SET****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the Committee with an overview of performance against the Communities and Place Departmental Strategy at the end of quarter 4 of the year 2018-19. The report also includes the Core Data Set for Communities and Place which provides a summary of service performance for quarter 4 (1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019).

Background

2. The Council Plan - Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future - sets out the strategic ambition for the future of Nottinghamshire and the Council. It is focused on the future of Nottinghamshire as a prosperous place where people want to live, work, visit and invest.
3. The Council Plan is the core component of the Council's Planning and Performance Framework. The Framework sets out that delivery of the Council Plan will be through four Departmental Strategies detailing the activity and key measures to achieve the Council's strategic ambition. The first four Departmental Strategies – for Adults, Childrens, Place and Resources - were developed during 2017 and agreed by Policy Committee in January 2018.
4. The Planning and Performance Framework also sets out how the Council will plan and manage its performance. The approach and format for reporting this was agreed by the Improvement and Change Sub-Committee on 12 March 2018. As part of that approach Members agreed that progress against the four departmental strategies will be reported to committee every six months.
5. The Council has also agreed that the key measures of its performance will be defined through a number of core data sets. Performance against these core data sets is reported to committee every three months (quarterly) to support the performance management of the delivery of services.

The Council Plan - Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future: Review of Progress from October 2018 – March 2019

6. The Dashboard set out at Appendix A provides an overview of performance for the key activities and measures set out at part 3 of the Communities and Place Departmental Strategy. The Dashboard is focused on the 12 Council Plan commitments and covers the final six months of October 2018 – March 2019.
7. During this period the Council has continued to operate in a challenging financial landscape with ongoing change to local authority funding coupled with many Council services experiencing continued increases in demand.
8. Progress has been made against the Communities and Place Departmental Strategy, with the actions contributing across the range of Council Plan Commitments, highlights include:

Commitment 4 – Nottinghamshire has a thriving jobs market

- People leave education with better qualifications and skills – The report highlights the work of Inspire, who have implemented a programme of investment to modernise public libraries and develop a range of cultural and learning services on behalf of the Council, to support the Councils ambition of having more people in higher paid and skilled jobs. This can be evidenced by the 529 courses that have ran so far, for the period of August 2018 to March 2019, with a further 359 courses planned for the Summer Term; this has ensured 4,977

Commitment 11 – Nottinghamshire is a well-connected county

- Improved superfast broadband coverage – The report demonstrates the Councils ability to recognise that the digital economy is driving growth of local economies worldwide, and it's subsequent commitment to ensuring businesses are well-connected in an increasingly digitally connected age. Progress in this area is reflected by the £3,479,009 the Council has invested in the broadband programme as of December 2018, further evidenced by the fact 97.5% of the County are now able to access superfast broadband speeds, ranking first in the East Midlands for superfast and fibre broadband coverage.

9. Particular attention will be given to any commitment where delivery of an action has not yet been matched by a change in the measure of success linked to it. This will include:

Commitment 5 – Nottinghamshire is a great place to live, work, visit and relax

- People live in communities supported by good housing and infrastructure & People look after and enjoy the local environment – As set out in the appendix, there is still work to be done to achieve the target for % of household waste sent to reuse, recycling or composting, however the figure provided is for work up to quarter 3 as this measure is reported a quarter in arrears and does not reflect the Councils end of year performance. Additionally, a number of new schemes and save initiatives are underway to improve performance in this area, with on-going negotiations taking place with Mansfield District Council on their proposal to introduce kerbside glass collections.

Commitment 12 – Nottinghamshire has a skilled workforce for a global economy

- People have a higher level of skills – The number of care leavers in employment has seen a reduction of 1.3% for quarter 4, against the previous quarter 2 figure. Work is still underway between the authorities, health care partners, along with current & previous care leavers to improves it's offer and ensure the offer has the potential to make a real difference for individual care leavers. Work streams have been agreed and

have been led by appropriate senior officers from across the collaborative partnership, and business leaders from across the county have now been invited to pledge their support to increase employment opportunities for care leavers.

10. The Committee is invited to consider the progress reported in the appendix and any further information that it might require. The current departmental strategies, along with its core data sets, are currently being revised by the departments for financial year starting 2019/20 and will be brought to Policy committee in May 2019.

Core Data Set - Communities and Place

11. This report provides a summary of the quarter 4 position for the Place Core Data Set (PCDS) performance measures that fall within the responsibility of the Communities and Place Committee. The full PCDS is included at Appendix B.
12. When considering the PCDS appendix it should be noted that:
 - The previous figures are for the preceding four quarter periods (quarter 4 of 2017/18, and 1, 2 & 3 of 2018/19) providing performance progress over the last 12 months.
 - The appendix also indicates whether the measure is
 - a cumulative measure which shows performance from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019,
 - a measure which only includes the value for the individual quarter
 - a measure which is reported on a rolling 12 month time period, or
 - a measure which is reported annually.
 - The comparisons within the appendix are comparing the current value with the previous quarter/annual (quarter 3 / 2018/19) or for cumulative measures comparison against quarter 4 2017/18, although in some cases this is highlighted as not applicable where the data is unavailable for the previous quarter/annual.

Highways and Transport

13. The Highways Service is delivered primarily through a joint venture company, Via East Midlands, to the County Council (NCC) for the benefit of the County's residents, visitors, businesses and highways users, with some key strategic functions retained by NCC.
14. The overall trend in the numbers of people and children killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road accidents is still on course to achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction from the 2005-09 average. The latest KSI figures see a reduction of 38.8% for people and 72% for children on the KSI average for 2005-09.
15. In quarter 4, a further 10,073 properties have been safeguarded through the planning response process. This is a dramatic increase on the previous figure reported for quarter 4 of 2017/18 due the way in which the figure is now reported. Previously this figure highlighted the number of applications the Council commented on, however this figure now details the individual number of properties within an application, with some applications having a large number of properties included within.

Place Commissioning – Waste Services

16. The County Council has a long term Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract (to 31 March 2033) with Veolia Environmental Services (VES), to manage the bulk of the Local Authority Collected waste. This includes providing the recycling network and operating and maintaining the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Mansfield. It also includes arranging composting services and waste disposal through subcontractors for the production and processing of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) from residual waste, and for the use of the Sheffield Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) with Veolia Sheffield. Two other significant contracts are also used to manage waste streams in the County.

17. The percentage of household waste sent to reuse, recycling and composting is currently forecasted to be 43%, falling below the target of 45.5%. This is due to the significant effect of the prolonged drought which affected the entire country last summer and will have also adversely affected all local authorities composting performance. Performance will return back to normal levels in quarter 4, where the milder Feb and Mar temperatures increased green waste tonnages.

Place Commissioning – Libraries

18. In April 2016, Inspire commenced provision of a range of cultural and learning services, including the Council's library services. Supported by the Council, Inspire has implemented a programme of investment to modernise public libraries and develop a range of cultural and learning services on behalf of the Council.
19. During quarter four, Edwinstowe Library re-opened following an extensive refurbishment as part of the programme of capital modernisation programme, which has seen visitor numbers increase by over 18%. Cotgrave library re-opened in its new home as part of the Cotgrave multi service centre, where library, district council, police and health centre have all co-located. Increased library opening hours have been offered, working in partnership with the district council.
20. Inspire Learning is continuing to successfully recruit adult and community learners to meet the learner target of 6,000 and to deliver the guided learning hours target of 193,098. In addition, the new accredited courses for learners aged over 19 have started and they are proving to be very successful, particularly English, maths, IT and ESOL up to Level 2. The 19+ Advanced Learner Loan funded provision (i.e. Access to HE – in Health and Social Care) has been successful. Over 20 adults will successfully progress from the Access programme to appropriate HE degree programmes with local Universities from September 2019 onwards. The 16 to 19 Study Programmes are continuing to be successful. Achievement rates across all provision are continuing on their four-yearly upward trend and the service is focussing upon the quality of teaching, learning and assessment to support the shift from being a 'Good' to an 'Outstanding' service at the next Ofsted Inspection. This inspection is due from the start of the 2020/21 academic year onwards, and will be following a new Education Inspection Framework, which will replace the existing Common Inspection Framework from September 2019.

Catering

21. During 2017/18 the schools catering business served approximately 40,000 meals per school day, with an uptake of 57.6% against a target of 58%. This is marginally reduced this year to date.
22. Financial performance is marginally better than forecast, at a surplus for the year of £4,218 where the service was originally forecasting a deficit. There are a number of pre-committed school projects outstanding which have been accrued for the service, with work continuing to minimise the deficit.
23. This will be challenging as the business is coming under increasing pressure due to the increasing of the hourly pay rates of staff by 30-40% by the Council over the last few years, along with large central overhead charges. The market changes being driven by large multi-academy tenders mean the Council is now unable to compete financially which will result in a significant reduction in market share and further cost pressures. All of the large academy chains have now put their services up for tender.

Planning

24. The County Council Planning Service is responsible for processing County Matter planning applications relating to proposals for Minerals or Waste development. Between October and December 2018, 15 applications were determined, 14 of which were within the 13 week timescale or an agreed extension of time. This resulted in a performance of 93%, which continues to exceed the nationally set target of 60% for both the quarter and for the previous 12 months.
25. A Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) bid has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government on the 22nd March, 2019. The bid will be evaluated and the outcome will be known later this year.

Trading Standards

26. Results for reducing the availability of illicit tobacco in the County were exceptionally good for quarter 4, with seizures of illicit tobacco amount to a total retail value of £513,832 taking the annual total retail value figure to £578,772. Officers worked successfully with HMRC colleagues on a joint operation moving up the supply chain to identify and raid a big storage unit in the County.
27. The end of year figure for Trading Standards income generation is £780k, £213k in excess of target. This has been a good year for attracting income from across the full range of income streams, a number of which were one-off opportunities. The year-end outcome positions the Service well for 2019/20, when the income target will increase again by a further £132k.
28. The number of businesses and organisations that the Authority is providing advice and support to have grown by 7 this year to a total of 42. Negotiations are underway with a number of other potential new partners. The development of the Primary Authority comprehensive regulatory support package, in partnership with Rushcliffe Borough Council is progressing well.
29. Whilst the growth in the number of Friends Against Scams has fallen short of the ambitious annual target of 500, the County now has 42 registered Scam Marshals placing it third highest nationally for Scam Marshalls with 4% of the national figure of 1051. Plans are developing to work more collaboratively with Safer Nottinghamshire Board partner agencies to further increase the current county total of 845 "Friends" in 2019/20.
30. The total number of interventions with vulnerable scam victims has well exceeded the annual target figure of 250. The Service has been able to allocate its 3 new Regulatory Compliance Officer apprentices to assist with the work visiting victims identified by lists provided by the National Trading Standards Scams Team. The Service continues to receive high quality scam referrals from other agencies working with older adults, highlighting the success of our scam awareness raising work.

Communities Service:

31. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) remains the most common community safety issue affecting local residents. There have been 17,180 recorded incidents of ASB between the period of April 2018 and March 2019. This is a 0.1% decrease in reported incidents compared to the

previous period of January 2018 to December 2018, and a 3.9% decrease compared to 2017/18 quarter 4 figure.

32. The Home Office, under its National Standards of Incident Recording (NSIR), identifies three major categories of ASB and all incidents are finalised under one of these three categories. These categorised are Personal (directed at an individual); Environmental (not directed but affecting the community at large); or Nuisance (not intentionally directed but still affecting an individual). Compared to the previous period, Environmental and Personal ASB have seen increases of 6% and 0.1% respectively, with Nuisance seeing a decrease in the number of incidents reported by 0.7%. This still accounts for an overall decrease of 0.1% as Nuisance ASB crimes account for 78.8% of all reported ASB incidents.

Other Options Considered

33. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of all areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis. The departmental strategy was agreed on 24 January 2018 and the format and frequency of performance reporting were agreed by Improvement and Change Sub Committee on 12 March 2018. Due to the nature of the report no other options were considered appropriate.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

34. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis.

Statutory and Policy Implications

35. 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.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the performance information on the Council's services for communities and place for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (RHC 01/05/2019)

36. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments (RWK 25/04/2019)

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

The performance measures included within appendix A are measures which have previously been included within the performance section of committee reports. These committees are as follows; community safety committee, culture committee, environment and sustainability committee, personnel committee, planning and licensing committee, transport and highways committee.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All