



<u>Committee and Date</u>
COUNCIL
15 December 2016
10.00am

<u>Item</u>
13
Public

Councillor Claire Wild
Performance Management Scrutiny Committee Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2015 - 2016

1.0 Summary

1.1 This is an overview of the work of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee since the last report to Council in September 2015.

2.0 What have we done?

2.1 The Committee has held nine formal Committee meetings since the last report made to Council.

Quarterly reporting

2.2 The Committee has undertaken scrutiny of regular reporting including the quarterly Corporate Performance Reports and the quarterly Revenue Monitoring and Capital Monitoring reports. Reviewing these reports has enabled the Committee to maintain an overview of progress and emerging issues which they have been able to raise in their meetings or refer to the relevant Scrutiny Committee to consider adding to their work programme.

2.3 Over the past twelve to eighteen months of the performance reporting, the Committee has considered all of the measures in the Corporate Performance Management Framework. Some examples of the measures they have picked up in their meetings include:

- Measures for Adult Social Care such as placements into residential and nursing care, taking account of increasing demand for services and the implementation of the Council's operating model, aiming to help people with the right support when they enquire about options and services.

- Delayed Transfers of Care from hospital, which has been a regular measure highlighted in the quarterly reporting, and which remains an area of focus for the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee.
 - The provision of support for children and families which helps to avoid them needing to enter the care system. The Committee have heard about the Council's 'front door' approach with improved interagency working and earlier intervention. The reported figures have shown that numbers of children being referred to social care and moving into care stabilised and has begun to reduce.
- 2.4 Regular monitoring of the Capital and Revenue reporting has provided the opportunity to consider progress in the management of budgets, and how this has impacted on services through the performance reporting. Through this work the Committee picked up and asked questions about the use of one-off funding to balance budgets, and the pressure on Adult Social Care and how this has a wider impact on all of the Council's budget.

Financial Strategy and Budget Consultation

- 2.5 As part of the scrutiny of the Financial Strategy, in December 2015, each Scrutiny Chair was invited to relay the views of their individual Scrutiny Committees on the Financial Strategy. Each Committee had considered the Financial Strategy from their respective remit and questioned the Directors and Portfolio Holders who attended the meetings. Through this activity the interdependences between the breadths of the services provided by the Council were highlighted, including the associated risks of making changes in one area and the unintended impact on another service, including those which had been protected.
- 2.6 The Committee also agreed to establish a Budget Task and Finish Group in December 2015 to allow more in-depth consideration than was possible within the Committee structure. The Task and Finish Group identified nine recommendations which were supported by Cabinet. At the conclusion of its work, the Task and Finish Group recommended that Scrutiny would like to be involved in Budget setting process at an earlier stage. As a result the Task and Finish Group continued into 2016/17 and undertook two pieces of work, the first running alongside the development of the Budget proposals for 2017/18 and beyond, and the other looking at the draft Corporate Plan.
- 2.7 During the period from the end of May to mid-July 2016 the Task and Finish Group met six times, identifying and carrying out their work on three main areas of focus:
- General Fund balance
 - Setting a sustainable budget
 - Adult Social Care

To inform its consideration the Group heard from Managers and Portfolio Holders about the budget proposals, and as a result set out seven recommendations which were supported by Cabinet.

Draft Corporate Plan 2016/17 to 2018/19

- 2.8 More recently, this Financial Strategy Task and Finish Group has also reported to the Committee its consideration and challenge of the draft Corporate Plan and draft Strategic Action Plans. In completing this work they considered the feedback from staff and Members on the Draft Corporate Plan reported to Council in July 2016 and identified which feedback should be taken account of in redrafting the plan; reviewed the context and High-level Outcomes sections of the redrafted document, and received and challenged the draft Strategic Action Plans.
- 2.9 Throughout the work they paid particular attention to the level of ambition being set out, and highlighted the importance of progressing Economic Growth over the coming years, especially in light of the move to Shropshire Council being part funded locally through the retention of 100% of business rates. The Group also recognised the importance of being able to update the Strategic Action Plans to reflect new or revised Council Strategies and developments such as the Economic Growth Strategic Plans that will be developed to deliver the emerging Economic Vision.

Other areas of work currently underway and planned for the future

- 2.10 The Committee has established a Joint Task and Finish Group with the Enterprise and Growth Scrutiny Committee to consider Planning which is currently ongoing.
- 2.11 It has also been agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to look at how Community Infrastructure Levy, S106 agreements and New Homes Bonus is used by the Council.
- 2.12 In addition to the budget shaping process and continual monitoring of performance in the light of ongoing changes, the Committee's future Work Programme is under rolling review and will include hearing from the University Centre Shrewsbury about work they have done in other areas which may be relevant to delivering the Strategic Action Plans, and useful to be considered in any future refresh during 2017/18.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Reports to Performance Management Scrutiny Committee 2015-16
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Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998
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Environmental Appraisal

There are no environmental issues relating to this report.
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Risk Management Appraisal

There are no risks associated with this report.

Community / Consultations Appraisal
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Consultation is a component of Scrutiny work to collect information to support the
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development of conclusions and recommendations.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Malcolm Pate, Councillor Michael Wood

Local Member

All

Appendices

None