

Report to Fire and Rescue Service Scrutiny Committee

4 March 2022

End of December 2021 (Quarter 3) Quarterly Performance and Resources Report – Focus for Scrutiny

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

The Quarterly Performance and Resources Report (PRR) is the Council's reporting mechanism for corporate performance, finance, savings delivery and business performance. It has been re-designed to reflect the new priorities, outcomes and measures included in Our Council Plan. It will be available to each scrutiny committee on a quarterly basis. Each committee will consider how it wishes to monitor and scrutinise performance relevant to their area of business.

The report (Appendix A) reflects the portfolio position at the end of December 2021. It includes information which is specifically relevant to the portfolio responsibilities of the scrutiny committee including an update on the tri-service Joint Fire Control project with Surrey and East Sussex Fire and Rescue which went live on the 17th November, a refocus on close call activity and how the service have adapted the protection ways of working to focus on desktop and remote fire safety audits to overcome the remaining challenges of access due to Covid which is proving beneficial for the premises.

The current Risk Register is included to give a holistic understanding of the Council's current performance reflecting the need to manage risk proactively.

Focus for scrutiny

The Committee is asked to consider the PRR (Appendices A and B). Areas for scrutiny include:

- 1) The effectiveness of measures taken to manage the Council's financial position and expectations;
- 2) The particular performance indicators and measures identified as most critical to the focus of the Committee and whether the narrative provides assurance about the position presented and likely outcomes;
- 3) The on-going impact of the Covid-19 emergency situation on the Council's financial resilience and performance;
- 4) Any areas of concern in relation to the management of corporate risk;
- 5) Whether the report indicates any issues needing further scrutiny relevant to the Committee's portfolio area and, if so, the timing of this and what further data or information may be required; and
- 6) Identification of any specific areas for action or response by the relevant Cabinet Member.

The Chairman will summarise the output of the debate for consideration by the Committee.

1. Background and context

- 1.1 The Performance and Resources Report (PRR) replaces the Quarterly Performance Report (QPM). The PRR is designed to be used by all Scrutiny Committees as the main source of the County Council's performance information.
- 1.2 The current report has two changes in the presentation of the information:
 - Capital performance within the Portfolio Sections has been moved to the start of each capital section to enable the reader to focus on the performance of projects; this is complimented by the financial aspect of the capital programme and links the areas together. In addition, explanations of the capital finance movements (including additions to the programme) have been included for completeness and governance reasons.
 - The arrows on the KPI measures have been updated. A green upward arrow indicates that performance is improving, a downward red arrow indicates performance is worsening, and a horizontal amber arrow indicates no change to performance.
- 1.3 Appendix C – How to Read the Performance and Resources Report, provides some key highlights on the structure, content and a detailed matrix of the sections of the report which are expected to be reviewed by the different scrutiny committees.
- 1.4 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached appendices (listed below). As it is a report dealing with internal or procedural matters only the Equality, Human Rights, Social Value, Sustainability, and Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessments are not required.

Tony Kershaw

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Appendices

Appendix A – Community Support, Fire and Rescue Portfolio - Performance Summary

Appendix B – Corporate Risk Register

Appendix C – How to read the report

Background Papers

None