

# **Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee**

**13 March 2019**

## **Business Planning Group Report**

### **Report by Chairman, Business Planning Group**

#### **Executive Summary**

Each Select Committee has a Business Planning Group (BPG) to oversee the Committee's work programme and prioritise issues for consideration by the Committee. This report provides an update to the Committee of the BPG meeting held on 20 December 2018, setting out the key issues discussed.

#### **Recommendation**

The Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and endorse the Committee's Work Programme for 2019/20 (attached as appendix A).

## **1. Background**

1.1 The Business Planning Group (BPG) met on 20 December 2018 with Mr Barrett-Miles, Mr Baldwin, Mr Jones and Mr S Oakley, in attendance to undertake work planning on behalf of the Committee.

1.2 Among the issues discussed:

- **Total Performance Monitor (portfolio-specific elements)** – No issues for scrutiny by the Committee or referral to Performance and Finance Select Committee were identified.

- **Electric Vehicle Strategy**

Members were briefed on the Cabinet Member for Environment's plans for an EV Strategy, including an update on the authority's fledging EV fleet, which user feedback had shown to have been well received. Following consideration of the timeline for the strategy development work, it was agreed that the Committee would preview the strategy in November 2019. Areas of concern included the role of the council, the forecast demand for electric vehicles, and the benefits accruing to the authority in respect of the costs.

- **Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) Performance Management**

Members were given an overview of the latest FRS Performance data as set out in the Operational Performance Report (attached as Appendix B). No areas of concern were identified.

Since HMICFRS was due to publish its draft inspection report in May, an item to consider the findings was added to the June meeting agenda.

- **Highways-related Infrastructure and Developer Contributions**

Planning for the item (due to be on the ECFSC agenda for 13 March) was undertaken. In particular, members set out the following concerns:

- Some Highways Managers had previously felt that they had limited input to Local Highways Schemes, and members would also like to see more money spent in these areas.
- Members often felt 'locked out' of the process and would like more involvement, but believed the current system didn't allow for it. This included the notification of any changes in availability of S106 funding for particular schemes.

## **2. Work Programme Planning 2018/19 and 2019/20**

- 2.1 Informed by officers from the relevant service areas, BPG members considered the Work Programmes for 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- 2.2 The output from this discussion is summarised in the revised work programme at Appendix A (2019/20) which reflects any subsequent decisions or alterations made since the meeting.

## **3. Equality Duty**

- 3.1 An Equality Impact Report is not required for this report as it deals with internal matters only.

### **Andrew Barrett-Miles**

Chairman, Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee

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**Appendix A** - Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee  
Work Programme 2019/20

**Appendix B** - WSFRS Operational Performance Report

**Background Papers** - None