

FINANCE, ASSETS AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work Programme 2019/21

Chair: Councillor Mark Holland

Vice-Chair: Councillor Bert Proctor

Members: Burnett, Fear, Grocott, Hutton, Kearon, Pickup, Rout, Stubbs and P. Waring

Portfolio Holders covering the Committee's remit:

Councillor S Tagg, Leader – Corporate and Service Improvement, People and Partnerships

Councillor Stephen Sweeney - Deputy Leader – Finance and Efficiency



The following services fall within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee:

Corporate Strategy	Revenue and Capital Budgets
Council Structure and Democracy	Surplus Assets
External Partnerships (including Newcastle Partnership, Staffs. Strategic Partnership, Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire LEP, Town Centre BID and Constellation Partnership)	Financial Monitoring
District Deal	Internal Audit
Economic Development Strategy	Procurement
Human Resources and Payroll	Treasury Management
Keele Deal	Revenues and Benefits
LAPs	Increasing Revenue Generation
Localism	Performance Management and Risk Champion

Classification: NULBC **UNCLASSIFIED**

Customer and ICT Services	Licensing (incl Taxis)
Communications and Website	Financial Inclusion (incl Living wage)
Guildhall	Health and Safety Champion
Sports and Leisure Provision for Kidsgrove	Car Parks
Ryecroft and Civic Hub projects	

The core Work Programme is determined at the beginning of the municipal year. Issues can be added throughout the year with the Chair's approval or where a new priority area comes to the Committee's attention.

For more information on the Committee or its Work Programme please contact Denise French on 01782 742211 or at denise.french@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	BACKGROUND/OBJECTIVES	OUTCOME
Thursday 19 September 2019	Q1 Finance and Performance		
	Work Programme		
	Revenues and Benefits – Universal Credit	Impact on benefit claimants and organisational impact on NULBC.	
	Digital Strategy	Pre-Cabinet scrutiny of Outline Business Case	
	ICT Strategy and Development Programme	Review of ICT strategy and development programme including plans to migrate to Windows 10/Office 365.	
Monday 16 December 2019	Revenue and Capital Budgets	Pre-cabinet Scrutiny of draft savings proposals and capital programme	Alignment to Council Plan
	MTFS	Pre-cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan
	Commercial Strategy	Review Governance and Risk Management	Assurance that risks are being appropriately managed. Compliance to MTFS.

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	Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services	Update on restructure proposals	Assurance that resourcing levels will be sufficient to ensure achievement of agreed performance targets
	Quarter 2 Performance Report	Review performance indicators.	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with Council Plan. Alignment to MTFS and Budget.
Thursday 16 January 2020	Revenue/Capital Budget and Council Tax	Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS.
	Capital Strategy	Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS.
	Investment Strategy	Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS.
	Scale of Fees and Charges	Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS.
	Treasury Management	Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS.
Thursday 19 March 2020	Asset Transfer/Community Management	Review examples (e.g. Guildhall) and determine preferred model based on learning points. Consider other potential assets for transfer (e.g. Community Centres, Kidsgrove Sports Centre).	Adequate community capacity and capability. Financial sustainability.
	Kidsgrove Sports Centre	Review progress on asset repair/transfer and CIC operating model.	Financial sustainability. Community demands. Councillor Burnett to be asked to undertake some research into this topic initially and report back to the committee.
	Ethical Debt Collection	Review progress of pilot schemes in	Assurance that use of

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		Hammersmith & Fulham and Bristol, and draft NULBC Code of Collection Practice.	collection agent is appropriate and proportionate, and impact on vulnerable residents is minimised.
	Outsourcing of Payroll Services	Review of progress.	Assurance that new arrangements have delivered an improved service and cost savings.
	Quarter 3 Performance Reports	Review Performance Indicators	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with Council Plan. Alignment to MTFS and Budget.
Thursday 25 June 2020	LAPS	Review of impact on local services.	Focus on key local issues. Resource solutions.
	Procurements	Review commissioning and procurement process including whole life costs of projects/contracts and robustness of contract management procedures.	Best value.
	Quarter 4 Performance Reports	Review Performance Indicators.	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with Council Plan. Alignment to MTFS and Budget.
	Procurement	Review commissioning and procurement process including whole life costs of projects/contracts and robustness of contract management procedures.	Councillor Hutton to report back on his investigative findings.
Thursday 17 September 2020	Financial Sustainability and Recovery Plan	Pre-cabinet scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS
	Quarter 1 Performance Report	Review Performance Indicators	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with

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	CIPFA Guide to Financial Scrutiny	Information and guidance to members on best practice	Council Plan. Alignment to MTFS and Budget Financial scrutiny is carried out in accordance with best practice
14 December 2020	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 – 2025/26 Revenue and Capital Budget 2021/22 – First Draft Savings Plan Quarter 2 Performance Report	Review Performance Indicators	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with Council Plan.
18 January 2021	Revenue/Capital Budget plus Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy Scale of fees and	Pre-cabinet scrutiny Pre-cabinet scrutiny	Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS

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	charges		
18 March 2021	Quarter 3 Performance Report Commercial Strategy Asset Management Strategy Bradwell Cemetery Commercial Portfolio	Review Performance Indicators Update on progress Update on progress Update on outcome of the consultation Update on the review of the Commercial Portfolio and management of assets	Assurance that indicators accurately reflect progress with Council Plan Alignment to MTFS and Budget Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS Alignment to Council Plan and MTFS To enable Scrutiny to input any views to Cabinet

To keep under review

- Procurement Strategy – to review whether resources are available to provide a report for June 2021

January 2021