

Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Supplementary agenda no. 2

A meeting of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held on:

Date: 22 August 2019

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Meeting Room 9 - Level 3, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR

Items

- 10 Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report - Quarter 4 End of Year (Pages 3 - 6)

Attached is Appendix 5 to this report.

For further information please contact Michael Turner, Democratic Services Officer on Telephone: 01634 332817 or Email: democratic.services@medway.gov.uk

Date: 22 August 2019



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Summary of Quarter 4 End of Year Overview and Scrutiny performance discussion

1. Framework

- 1.1 Quarter 4 End of Year performance was discussed at the following Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) meetings:

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| Children and Young People O&S | 25 July |
| Regeneration, Culture and Environment O&S | 15 August |
| Health and Adult Social Care O&S | 20 August |

The summary of performance from the meeting of the Children & Young People O&S Committee held on 25 July has already been included in Appendix 4 of the Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report.

2. Items referred to Business Support O&S

No items were referred to Business Support O&S.

3. O&S Performance Discussions

- 3.1 This section provides a summary of the discussions at the Regeneration, Culture and Environment O&S Committee and the Health and Adult Social Care O&S Committee.

3.1.1 Regeneration, Culture and Environment O&S Committee discussion summary.

Discussion:

The Committee received a report setting out performance in Quarter 4 and end of year for 2018/19 for the key measures of success and projects relevant to this Committee.

A Member referred to LRCC4a (Number of jobs created and safeguarded) and sought clarification as to whether the 200 jobs created but awaiting confirmation at Amazon had been included in the 535 jobs created/protected against the annual target of 300. It was confirmed that these had not been included as the final number of jobs created had yet to be confirmed.

The Committee acknowledged the £25,000 secured by Greenspaces Development to deliver a Pocket Park at Chatham Town Hall Gardens, and stated that this was a good example of partnership working. The Committee asked that its appreciation be extended to the Head of Greenspaces and his staff both within Greenspaces and at the Country Parks for their work.

A Member referred to the Dickens 150 celebration in 2020 and suggested that the Council may also wish to work in partnership with others to mark the celebration of the life of William Cuffay which would be of international interest. The Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and

Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive agreed to pursue this further and to discuss with the Member direct.

A Member referred to the loss of a number of trees in Chatham Town Centre and requested that a briefing note be provided setting out the rationale for the loss of these trees. The Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive advised that as part of the Chatham Placemaking works, some trees required removal but confirmed that a tree planting programme was proposed and he agreed to provide a briefing note on this issue.

A Member referred to the improvement works at Chatham Railway Station, a project being undertaken by the Council in partnership with Network Rail. He expressed the importance of communication to residents, businesses and commuters as to the progress of regeneration works and drew attention to the detailed communication panels at the Command of the Heights regeneration site. He stated that ideally this level of communication should be consistent across Medway regeneration sites. The Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive noted the comments and acknowledged the importance of effective communication and engagement at regeneration sites.

In response to a question, the Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive outlined in detail the extensive level of engagement at both Member and officer levels on the skills and employability plan.

A Member referring to transport and public realm improvements in Strood, and in particular the planters and tree pits that had been installed and, in the light of the discussion on an earlier item concerning the use of herbicides, he requested that appropriate root protection and weed suppression measures be put in place. The Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive agreed to take this on board.

Decision:

The Committee noted the Quarter 4 and end of year performance of measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities and noted that:

- a) The Director for Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive will consider the potential of marking the life of William Cuffay in 2020.
- b) A briefing note will be circulated on the rationale for the removal of a number of trees in Chatham Town Centre and information on the proposed tree planting programme.

3.1.2 Health and Adult Social Care O&S Committee discussion summary.

Discussion

A Member was pleased to see that performance against a number of the success measures had met or exceeded target and commended staff for their work. However, performance of some other success measures had been below target for a significant time. The measure, 'Proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live independently' was considered to be one example of where performance could improve if work was more joined-up. The Member asked, in view of the decreasing number of care home places available locally, whether the local market was able to meet demand. The Member also asked that the Committee commend the 'Men in Sheds' initiative and its role in addressing social isolation.

The Assistant Director – Adult Social Care said that performance for the proportion of adults with learning disabilities who lived in their home had been persistently below the national average but that there had been significant improvement. 2018/19 year end performance was 69%, a 2% improvement on the previous year and a 10% improvement compared to a few years previously. The gap between Medway and the national average had significantly reduced. Initiatives to support improvement in this area included growing the Shared Lives Service, with the ambition being to double its size in the next two years. The Service was an alternative to residential care for people with learning disabilities. A small transitions team had been created to ensure the effective management and support of people transitioning from children's to adult services.

A Mental Health and Disability Steering group had been established within Medway. This would look at how to support people with learning disabilities or mental health issues to live independent lives. It would also deliver the priorities set out in the Medway Mental Health Strategy and the Learning Disability Strategy, the latter of which was due to be considered by the Committee at its October 2019 meeting. Homelessness and housing options for people with mental health issues was an area that would be further investigated. It was acknowledged that improving performance against some measures would take time.

Adult Services undertook a range of work to help ensure that the care home provider market was sustainable. This included a small quality assurance function. There was sufficient supply of residential care available. Extra care provision had been developed, including two new schemes, as an alternative to residential care. It was acknowledged that there was pressure around nursing and nursing dementia provision locally. Work was taking place with NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group to develop this and ensure sufficient provision to meet future needs.

A Member considered the transition work to be excellent and also mentioned the increasing propensity of care homes to take day patients.

Decision

The Committee considered the quarter 4 and end of year 2018/19 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.

4. Performance Data.

The performance data for both O&S Committees is set out in Appendix 3 to the report.