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CABINET

5 FEBRUARY 2019

COUNCIL PLAN REFRESH 2019/20

ADDENDUM REPORT

Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Adrian Gulvin, Resources
Report from:	Phil Watts, Chief Finance Officer
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Summary

This addendum report sets out the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee which considered the Council Plan Refresh 2018/19 report on 31 January 2019.

1. Background

1.1 Members considered a report which presented a summary of the proposed measures to be used for monitoring the Council Plan 2019/20. The Committee also considered an addendum report which set out details of changes to two of the Council Plan measures. The latter report explained that national data had been received in respect of two of the measures (i.e. *ASCOF 2A (2) (Permanent admissions to care homes) and EDU3 (b) (The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school)).* As a result, the targets relating to these two measures had been amended to bring them in line with national performance.

1.2 The following measures were discussed:

- **PH14 (Excess weight in 4-5 year olds)** – in response to a query, officers clarified that although the proposed target percentage figure had increased in relation to the existing target, this did in fact represent a reduced target. In this case the aim was to minimise and therefore a higher target value was a reduced target (i.e. less challenging).

- **FIN (Unmodified/positive value for money conclusion from the Council's external auditors)** – a Member made the point that it was possible that a non-value for money issue, such as an adverse Ofsted report, could also lead to a qualified opinion from the external auditor.

- **DIGI TU 01 (Digital take up)** – a Member asked if more thought could be given to this target to ensure it was meaningful.

- **HC3 (No. of households with dependent children in B&B who have resided there for 6+ weeks at the end of the quarter)** - a Member proposed that there should be an additional measure so that the overall direction of travel regarding children in temporary accommodation was reflected, with a possible target of the number of children in temporary accommodation in Medway.

1.3   The Committee agreed to:

a)   note the revised measures as set out in paragraph 1.2 above;

b)   note the proposed changes to programmes and measures of success as listed above and in Appendix 1 to the report at agenda item no. 11 and recommend to Cabinet that an additional measure is added to the Council Plan aimed at reflecting the overall direction of travel regarding children in temporary accommodation, and;

c)   note that, with regard to those Council Plan measures still awaiting a proposed target that Full Council will be asked to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, to agree the final measures.

2.   Chief Finance Officer's comments

2.1   The Council currently records the number of children in temporary accommodation and makes reference to this in the narrative provided within the existing housing measures in the quarterly Council Plan Monitoring Reports. We will agree with the Chief Executive how this will be monitored and whether a target will be set under the delegated authority being requested from Full Council. As such I support the inclusion of this new measure in the Council Plan Monitoring for 2019/20 subject to confirmation from Cabinet and approval by Full Council.

3.   Recommendation

3.1   The Cabinet is asked to consider the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee including the specific recommendation that an additional measure is added to the Council Plan aimed at reflecting the overall direction of travel regarding children in temporary accommodation as set out in paragraph 1.3b of the addendum report.

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