

REGENERATION, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 OCTOBER 2022

COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT AND RISK SUMMARY QUARTER 1 2022/23

Report coordinated by Phil Watts, Chief Operating Officer

Contributors: Children and Adults – Directorate Management Team
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Public Health
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Summary

Medway's Council Plan 2022/23 sets out the Council's three priorities. This report and appendices summarise how we performed in Q1 2022/23 on the delivery of the programmes and measures which fall under the remit of this committee which are: Place (Appendix 1) and Growth (Appendix 2).

This report also presents the Q1 2022/23 review of strategic risks (Appendix 3).

Following feedback from CMT, Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the format of the report has been improved. The new style report shows performance of each programme. It includes the achievements for the programme and the actions being taken to improve performance.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1. The Council Plan 2022/23 was agreed at Full Council in February 2022. It sets out the Council's three priorities and six values which aim to deliver these priorities. It includes the measures we use to track performance. These measures are refreshed annually.

1.2. Risk management is an integral part of good governance. The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to identify and manage the barriers to achieve its strategic objectives and enhance the value of services it provides to the community. The Cabinet has responsibility to ensure the effective operation of risk management in the Council.

2. Background

2.1. Following feedback from Corporate Management Team, Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the format of the report has been improved. The new

style report shows performance of each programme. It includes the achievements for the programme and the actions being taken to improve performance.

- 2.2. This report sets out the performance summary against the two Council priorities relevant for this Committee: Place and Growth. It focuses on where we have achieved or exceeded our targets, and how we are tackling underperformance. This report also sets out the latest review of the strategic risks relevant to this committee together with mitigation in place to minimise impact and likelihood.
- 2.3. Detailed background information supporting this report can be found in Appendix 1 (Place) and Appendix 2 (Growth).
- 2.4. Risk owners have reviewed and updated their risks which have subsequently been reviewed and agreed by the Strategic Risk Management Group (SRMG) and Corporate Management Team (CMT). The revised Strategic Risk Summary can be found in Appendix 3: Strategic Risk Summary.
- 2.5. There have been no changes to strategic risks that are relevant to this committee.

3. Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 August 2022

- 3.1. On 25 August 2022, the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered Quarter 4 of 2021/22 and Quarter 1 of 2022/23 performance. The reports also presented a review of strategic risks.

The relevant section from the minutes from this meeting is set out below:

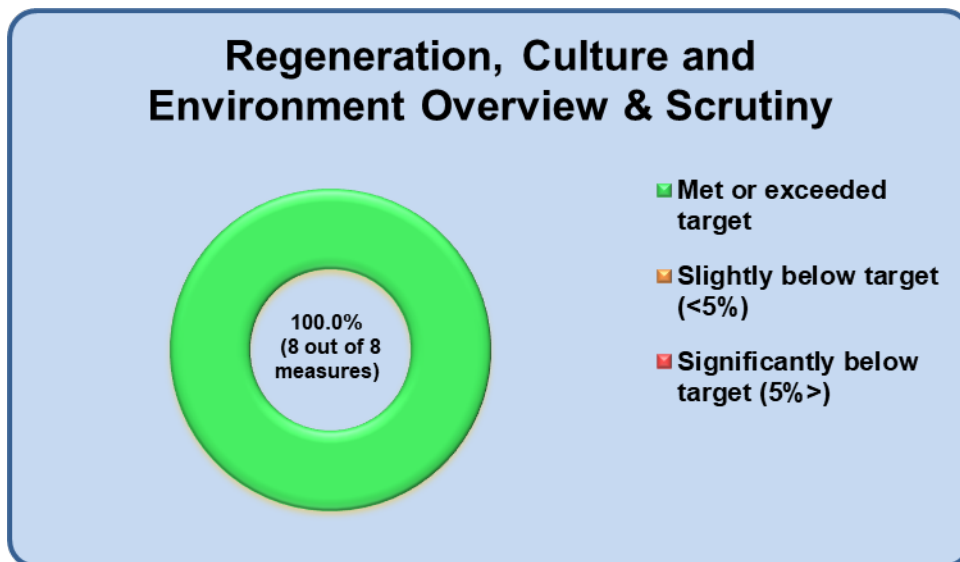
Improving air quality in air quality management areas in Medway - It was suggested that this should have its own risk or be included within the HIF risk (SR50) because it was not considered that the Four Elms Hill Air Quality Action Plan would result in improvements in air quality until there was an increase in the use of electric vehicles and forthcoming roadworks would result in significant congestion.

- 3.2. The Assistant Director, Regeneration, has made the following comments: Air quality in the Four Elms Hill Air Quality Management Area is monitored by the Environmental Protection team. However, the HIF team will need to provide mitigation should any increase in air pollutants be predicted to arise as a result of the improvements to Four Elms roundabout. Air quality mitigations may also be required throughout the construction of the scheme. The mitigations required will be informed by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which is currently ongoing and will be included in the future planning application for the road scheme.
- 3.3. The Head of HIF and Regeneration has commented as follows: The air quality action plan for Four Elms was approved by Cabinet on 23 August 2022. Air quality is managed by the Environmental Protection team who will manage the risk of the air quality action plan not achieving its intended outcomes. In addition, strategic risk SR47: Climate Change has a mitigation SR47.03 Drive the air quality action plan forward to effect improvement in air quality across Medway. The lead officer for this mitigation is the Head of Environmental Services. The HIF team will carry out an EIA which will inform any further air quality mitigations as a result of their programme. Therefore, air quality in the Four Elms Air Quality Management Area

is managed within the Climate Change strategic risk rather than the HIF strategic risk.

4. Summary of performance

- 4.1. There are 9 Council Plan measures for 2022/23 that fall under the remit of this committee: 3 measures for the Place priority and 6 measures for the Growth priority. We are reporting on 8 as 1 measure is data only.



Improved performance

- 44% (4 out of 9*) improved short term (since last quarter)
 - 56% (5 out of 9*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- *where data available

5. Risk management

- 5.1. Implementation of a performance management and risk framework allows the Council to evidence how successful it is in achieving against its stated objectives, and for residents it provides genuine accountability on how successfully the Council is administering its resources. The risk of inaccurate data being reported to Members is minimised through authorisation by Directorate and Corporate Management Teams. Assurance can therefore be placed on the accuracy of data used to assess performance. By reporting to Members, the risk of poor performance not being identified or addressed is minimised.
- 5.2. The Risk Management process helps the Council understand, evaluate, and take action on all their risks. It supports effective decision making, identification of priorities and objectives and increases the probability of success by making the most of opportunities and reducing the likelihood of failure.
- 5.3. The Council's Risk Management Strategy incorporates and:
- promotes a common understanding of risk.
 - outlines roles and responsibilities across the Council.
 - proposes a methodology that identifies and manages risk in accordance with best practice thereby seeking to prevent injury, damage, and loss.

6. Consultation

- 6.1. The changes to the format of the report have been consulted upon with Directorate Management Teams, Corporate Management Team, the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Resources, and the Portfolio Holder for Business Management. These were well received.

7. Financial and legal implications

- 7.1. There are no direct finance or legal implications arising from this report.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1. The Committee is asked to consider the Q1 2022/23 performance against the measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities and consider the amended Strategic Risk Summary as set out in Appendix 3.
- 8.2. The Committee is asked to consider the referral from the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 August 2022 regarding the suggestion that air quality management areas in Medway should have its own risk. The Committee is also asked to consider the comments of the Assistant Director, Regeneration, and the Head of HIF and Regeneration that air quality mitigations are held within the climate change strategic risk rather than the HIF strategic risk.

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Background papers

[Council Plan 2022/23](#)

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Council Priority: Place
Appendix 2 - Council Priority: Growth
Appendix 3 - Strategic Risk Summary