

PERFORMANCE PANEL

Monday, 7 November 2022

Attendance:

Councillors
Horrill (Chairperson)

Cook
Cutler

Laming
Cramoysan

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Craske and Westwood

Other members in attendance:

Councillor(s) Tod, Achwal, Clear, Power and Thompson

1. DETAILED REVIEW OF DRAFT Q2 FINANCE & PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Questions that had been pre-submitted had been circulated to panel members ahead of the meeting (these questions were attached in appendix 1.)

The panel reviewed the draft report as follows (any page numbers referenced relate to the page numbers of the panel's report pack.)

Page 4. Further to pre-submitted question number 1, Mrs Adey clarified that the statement in paragraph 5, page 4 of CAB3367 related to the performance report itself and not the individual projects being reported within it.

Page 6. Further to pre-submitted question number 2 regarding judicial reviews, Mrs Adey advised that she was aware of one pre-judicial review case currently.

Page 7. Further to pre-submitted question number 3, Councillor Tod and Mrs Adey advised that the refreshed council plan would be progressed through the cabinet on the 14th of December (papers available on the 6th of December 2022) and then to the January Full Council.

Page 10. It was suggested that the wording under bullet point number 2 be amended so that instead of "funding of food waste" it referred to "funding of food waste collection" also "food waste system" could be altered to "food waste collection system".

Page 10. A question was asked regarding the signposting of help and support for residents during the cost-of-living crisis. Mrs Knight advised that the upcoming “cost of living summit” would be focussed on partnership working to optimise support and avoid duplication. This was scheduled to take place at the end of November and a toolkit of help and support would be published following it. A further question was asked about “hubs” across the district and Mrs Knight advised that officers appreciated how effective local hubs were during the pandemic and were assessing how they could be used to support residents through the cost-of-living crisis.

Page 11. Further to pre-submitted question number 8, it was asked what further actions the council could take to improve its recycling rate or make recycling easier for residents, especially regarding additional communications. Councillor Tod advised on several points including, communications over contaminated waste, the availability of twin sort once the Eastleigh Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) was operational, and food waste. **Action. Officers to advise of any future communication activities to encourage recycling and/or decrease contamination.**

Page 11. Further to the response to question number 8, and references to additional collections with BIFFA, Councillor Tod advised that officers were looking at other options and best practices regarding certain targeted collections and referred to other services such as carton bins, batteries, and small electrical appliances.

Page 17. A question was asked regarding the current thinking and planning for the type of housing provision for older people in the district. Mrs Knight informed that this would be part of the Housing Strategy work due to cabinet in March 2023 and would include an older persons chapter. In response to a follow-up question, Mrs Knight advised that a list of relevant stakeholders connected to older persons had been compiled which included several local providers and charities whose views would be sought in the development of the strategy.

Page 17. Further to pre-submitted question number 11 and the answer provided regarding the Housing Company, it was asked whether a second option was available if the current proposals were not approved in December. Mrs Knight advised that the proposals did contain a range of options that were being worked through and was confident of a report being presented to the cabinet in December as planned.

Page 19. A question was asked regarding the reference to a member/tenant/officer forum in the penultimate paragraph. Mrs Knight advised that this forum would be established as part of the programme to replace gas heating systems. **Action. Officers to review ward member involvement in this programme.**

Page 20. Further to the pre-submitted question number 16, further clarification was sought regarding the void retrofit programme. Mrs Knight provided details of the "fabric first" approach being taken and that officers were currently progressing works on two properties. She gave details regarding the accreditation process, the retrofits on the Swedish properties and the tenant "retrofit ready" programme. A follow-up question was asked regarding managing the potential impact on tenants whilst the works were being undertaken. **Action. Officers to provide clarification on these points to all members as part of a future, planned member briefing.**

Page 33. A question was asked seeking clarification regarding agenda item k) on this page and what actions had been taken regarding this overspend. Mrs Adey advised of a recent review undertaken regarding salary scales and of further actions underway on this point. This particularly focused on planning and legal. A further question was asked regarding agenda item h) and the reasons for this above budget position. Councillor Tod advised that recycling income was above budget due to an increase in volumes collected and an increase in the value of certain materials.

Page 35. Further to question number 20, clarification was sought regarding the Q1/Q2 capital expenditure and the confidence that officers had that expenditure in Q3/Q4 would increase in line with the forecast. Mrs Keys referred to the answer provided to question number 20 and provided further information on specific projects such as Disabled Facilities Grants. Mrs Adey confirmed that the final account to be agreed with Wilmot Dixon remained on track for this financial year.

Page 37. Further to question number 23, additional clarification was sought regarding the sinking fund for Victoria court and Chesil and whether this had been confirmed. Mrs Keys advised that she believed that the contribution identified in the report was a reasonable estimate and would be sufficient if required.

Page 39. Further to question number 25, regarding the HRA capital spend, it was clarified that the two schemes referred to were the North Whiteley and Winnall developments.

Page 46. A question was asked regarding the rollout of the carbon neutrality roadmap. Mrs Adey advised that officers were currently undertaking a final sense check of the roadmap, and this would be rolled out as part of a member briefing. **Action. Officers to confirm the date for the member briefing.**

Page 47. A question was asked regarding rough sleeping (HA04) and whether there was more that the council and its partners could do. Mrs Knight advised that the council was working proactively with partners including the Police and BID rangers in this area, but this remained a difficult, ongoing issue and working with the individuals was vital. Further questions were asked about whether there was a need for further communications around the “Real Change Not Loose Change” theme using posters or car parking tickets and whether the BID Rangers could be a more visible presence on the High Street. Mrs Knight advised of previous communications undertaken and that work in this area was being reviewed in conjunction with other authorities. BID rangers were a useful resource and partner for the council, but all resources were under pressure in this area of work. **Action: Officers to advise when the communications review will be completed**

Page 53. Further to question number 27, the following written response was provided by Mr Coe.

“The 21st November was specifically for local stakeholders and ward members. This had been arranged as a courtesy to the principal stakeholder groups in the ward, ahead of the main engagement event on the 24th of November at the WSLP. Flyers, letters and a press release had gone out today for the 21st and the 24th. Everyone of course was welcome on the 24th and a Friday DSU was being arranged by Ellen to all Members with details of the 24th public event.

As discussed, the event was aimed at asking the community to rank and feedback their thoughts to all of the many different uses that had expressed an interest in the site in response to the Stage One marketing, that was undertaken in the summer. Public engagement feedback would be published after being reviewed by ELB and Cabinet Members ahead of Stage 2 marketing for formal bids. In terms of ‘who carries the weight of opinion’, this would be subject to the conventional Council decision making process and would be considered in the balance with Social, Economic, Financial and S123 Best Consideration Governance factors. As you were aware, final recommendations for preferred bidder(s) would be going back to Cabinet for approval.”

Further questions were asked regarding wider member engagement and the development framework. Councillor Tod advised that a separate member briefing or similar could be organised as part of the process and that the development framework would form part of the decision-making framework.

Action. Officers to advise regarding the member briefing referred to above.

Page 59. Further to question number 28, a question was asked regarding the stated action "a quote to sub-meter solar PV arrays" for several sites and whether this should have been part of the business plan. Mrs Adey advised that she believed that this action would have formed part of the business plan.

Action: Officers to clarify measures

Page 60. It was asked if the date of the publication of the district decarbonisation roadmap was known. Mrs Adey advised that this was scheduled to be discussed at the 6th December 2022 meeting of the HEP committee and that papers for this meeting would be published on 28 November 2022.

Page 66. Further to the response to pre-submitted question number 31, it was asked if the completion date for the Partnership for Southern Hampshire (PfSH) Joint Position Statement was known. **Officers to report back on this timeline.**

Page 69. A question was asked regarding nitrate and phosphate regulations and whether the council was actively pursuing sufficient credits. Mrs Adey advised that the council's position regarding nitrates was currently satisfactory however phosphate credits weren't currently available. In response to a follow-up question regarding phosphates, Mrs Adey advised that whilst resources were being channelled through PfSH some local provision was also being sought. Councillor Tod provided an update on activities he was aware of involving PfSH, DEFRA, OFWAT and local Water companies. **Officers to provide clarification on what a phosphate credit will look like once it has been established.**

Page 83. Regarding question number 22 of the meeting of 22 August 2022 concerning consultancy expenditure, a further update to this response was required. **Action. Officers to update the response to this question to include information for Q2.**

Page 98. Further to the response provided to question 37, Mrs Adey advised that any decisions relating to tier 2,3, or 4 projects were subject to the council's normal decision-making framework.

Page 99. Further to the response provided to a previous question of the meeting of 22 August 2022, it was confirmed that the first meeting of the Cabinet committee: Regeneration was to be arranged in Q4 2022/23 to receive a Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR) update.

Page 99. Further to the panel's previous discussion regarding the scrutiny of risk registers, it was agreed that Councillors Horrill, Cutler, Brook and appropriate officers would meet to discuss further, the matters raised by the panel concerning the ongoing review of risk registers.

2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE 22 AUGUST 2022 (INCLUDING PREVIOUS QUESTIONS AND ACTIONS)**

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed, and no actions were required.

3. **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING**

Members of the panel agreed on the actions as outlined in 1. above. It was agreed that any further updates would be circulated to panel members.

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm and concluded at 5.45 pm

Chairperson

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