

COMMUNITY AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 April 2018

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES: HOUSING & COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE
DELIVERY PLAN 2018-19

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Members with an overview of the People and Communities: Housing & Communities Directorate Delivery Plan 2018-19, to facilitate the scrutiny of the Plan, attached at **Appendix A**.

Scope of Scrutiny

2. The Committee's Terms of Reference give responsibility for scrutinising a range of services that fall within three Directorate Delivery Plans. The People and Communities: Housing & Communities Directorate Delivery Plan 2018-19 will be considered at this meeting and is attached at **Appendix A**. At next month's Scrutiny Committee meeting, Members will consider the relevant sections of the Social Services Delivery Plan. The relevant sections of the Resources Delivery Plan which relate to the crime and disorder/community safety parts of this Committee's Terms of Reference will be circulated outside of Committee for Members' information¹.
3. This item will enable the Committee to pass comments to the relevant Cabinet Member and senior officers to consider before they finalise the Directorate Delivery Plan.

¹ This Plan is subject to scrutiny by the Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee.

4. The majority of the People and Communities: Housing & Communities falls within the remit of this Committee, apart from Libraries and Adult Community Learning which the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee has the lead in scrutinising.

The Council’s Strategic Planning Framework

5. The Council’s integrated strategic planning framework (see diagram below) sets out the “golden thread” in meeting the Council’s four key priorities of:

- Working for Cardiff
- Working for Wales
- Working for the Future
- Working for Public Services



6. The Delivery Plan follows a standard format, which is:

- Corporate Introduction
- Directorate Profile
- Directorate Self-Assessment of Performance 2017/18.
- Moving Forward: Context, Opportunities and Challenges
- Contributing to Cardiff's Well-Being Objectives
- Delivering Welsh Language Standards
- Strategic Directorate Priorities

People and Communities: Housing & Communities Directorate Delivery Plan 2018-

19

7. The Plan is attached at **Appendix A**. Members are reminded that some of the work of this Directorate falls outside the remit of this Committee i.e. adult community learning and libraries. To assist Members, listed below are the pages relevant for each key section:

- a. Directorate Profile – **page 4** of the Plan
- b. Directorate Self-Assessment of Performance 2017/18 – **pages 5-6** of the Plan
- c. Moving Forward: Context, Opportunities and Challenges – **page 7** of the Plan
- d. Contributing to Cardiff's Well-Being Objectives – **pages 8-11** of the Plan
- e. Delivering Welsh Language Standards – **pages 12-13** of the Plan
- f. Strategic Directorate Priorities – **pages 14-31** of the Plan, which includes
 - Links to strategic priorities
 - Commitments to Action
 - Dependencies

8. The Directorate's **Self-Assessment of Performance during 2017-18** (pages 5-6) sets out what the Directorate has done well, what the Directorate could/should have done better and what opportunities and challenges the Directorate faced. Within the terms of reference of this Scrutiny Committee, this includes:

- Housing Development
- Landlord Services
- Benefit Cap
- Homelessness
- Preventative Services
- Neighbourhood Regeneration
- Responsive Repairs
- Advice Services and Hubs *(these cut across the responsibilities of this Scrutiny Committee and the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee)*

9. The **Moving Forward: Context, Opportunities and Challenges Section** on page 7 of the Plan sets out issues that the Directorate must take into account in planning future delivery. This highlights:

- Welfare Reform
- Integration of Services
- Funding Flexibilities

10. **Contributing to Cardiff's Well-Being Objectives** on pages 8-11 sets out how the Directorate will contribute towards the 7 well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales Act). These are:

- Cardiff is a great place to grow up
- Cardiff is a great place to grow older
- Supporting People out of Poverty
- Cardiff has safe, confident and empowered communities
- A Capital City that works for Wales
- Cardiff grows in a resilient Way
- Modernising and integrating our public services

11. The **Strategic Directorate Priorities** Section from page 14 onwards sets out in detail, under each Strategic Directorate Priority the following:

- Key Performance Indicators
- Dependencies
- Commitments to Action - Individual Headline Actions, with
 - Start/End Date
 - Responsible Officer
 - Key Milestones for each quarter in 2018/19
 - Link to Equality Objective

Way Forward

12. Councillor Susan Elsmore (Cabinet Member Social Care, Health, and Well Being) and Councillor Lynda Thorne (Cabinet Member, Housing & Communities) have been invited to each make a statement. Sarah McGill (Corporate Director for People and Communities), Jane Thomas (Assistant Director, Housing & Communities) and Nick Blake (Business Support Manager) will give a presentation and answer Members' questions.

13. Members may wish to explore the following areas:

- a. How the Directorate is supporting delivery of the Council's Key Priorities (*paragraph 5 of this report*) and Cardiff's Well-Being Objectives (*paragraph 10 of this report*) via the commitments detailed in the Strategic Directorate Priorities Section (*page 14 of the Plan onwards*);
- b. How the Directorate's priorities were identified and what criteria were used;
- c. Whether the milestones and timescales for commitments are appropriate and achievable;
- d. What the arrangements are for monitoring the implementation of the Delivery Plan commitments;
- e. Whether the performance measures are appropriate and fit for purpose;
- f. The Directorates' resource levels and whether these are sufficient to resource the commitments in Strategic Directorate Priorities Section;

- g. The key challenges facing the Directorate and how they are planning for the future; and
- h. The Directorate' key achievements during 2017/18.

Legal Implications

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

15. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- i. consider the information in this report and the Plan attached at **Appendix A**;
- ii. decide whether it wishes to make any comments or recommendations to the relevant Cabinet Member and Officers on the Directorate Delivery Plan; and
- iii. discuss whether any of the issues considered should be built into the Committee's work programme for 2018/19.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance and Legal Services

12 April 2018