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**PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE – COVID UPDATE –  
SERVICE AREAS & CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

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**Reason for the Report**

1. To provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider the current position of the Planning, Transport & Environment Directorate, and the impact that the current Covid crisis has had upon service delivery and capital projects.

**Background**

2. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 the United Kingdom was placed into an unprecedented lockdown to help mitigate the rapid spread of the coronavirus pandemic. This drastic action was taken to minimise social contact, reduce the number of new cases and ultimately protect lives.
3. The Council is a business that focuses on serving local people, and so is heavily reliant upon social contact. This means that limiting the number of day to day interactions has had a huge impact on the work of the Council, and the support it provides to local residents.
4. The Planning, Transport & Environment Directorate provides a broad range of services for local residents, these are set out below:
  - Planning;
  - Transport Policy, Strategy & Delivery;
  - Highway Infrastructure & Operations;
  - Energy and Sustainability;
  - Bereavement, Registration and Cardiff Dogs Home.

5. This item will provide Members with an opportunity to review the impact that the Covid crisis has had upon the services (above) and capital projects relevant to the Planning, Transport & Environment Directorate. The relevant Cabinet Members and the Director for Planning, Transport & Environment have agreed to attend the meeting to support the briefing, which will include:
- The budget position of the Directorate as a whole, along with a summary of individual service parts;
  - How the Directorate has performed against its performance objectives during the Covid crisis;
  - A summary of the main challenges that the Directorate has faced during the Covid crisis;
  - A summary of the main opportunities that the Directorate has identified during the Covid crisis;
  - An update on new and existing capital projects relevant to the Directorate;
  - A summary of key future proposals relevant to the Directorate.

### **Way Forward**

6. The Cabinet Members for Strategic Transport & Planning and Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment have been invited to attend the meeting. They will be supported by officers from the Planning, Transport & Environment Directorate.

### **Legal Implications**

7. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making 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 the 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**

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making 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**

9. The Committee is recommended to:
  - (i) Consider the information in this report and the information presented at the meeting;
  - (ii) Determine whether they would like to make any comments, observations or recommendations to the Cabinet on this matter; and,
  - (iii) Decide the way forward for any future scrutiny of the issues discussed.

**Davina Fiore**

**Director of Governance & Legal Services**

**9 September 2020**