

Performance Monitoring Report: S&R Committee

DATE OF MEETING	1 December 2020
ATTENDEES	Members: Keith Pearson, Nigel Cooper Officers: Andrew Cummings

PERFORMANCE UPDATE *(please give a brief progress update on the following areas)*

CDP PRIORITIES <i>(see Excelsis)</i>	<p>CDP 1 – Continue to allocate funds from the business rates pilot fund in line with the agreed principles</p> <p>Officers are producing action plans relating to recovery items for inclusion in the 2021/22 budget. The Business Rates pilot is one of the funds which is likely to be used for that process.</p>
	<p>CDP 1.3 – Progress and deliver the redevelopment of Brimscombe Port by securing planning permission and being ready to seek a development partner</p> <p>A bid to the One public Estate Programme for Land Release Funding (LRF) was submitted in early November seeking funding towards the abnormal infrastructure costs on this site. Progress has been made with third party statutory consultees for the planning application, with positive responses and discussions held. Formal responses are being finalised and expected in the next few weeks. Depending on when these are received, the anticipated date for the application to be determined by DCC, could move to February, with a report to March's S&R for a decision on whether to market the site for a development partner. This ties in with the outcome of the LRF bid, which is expected in January/early February.</p>
	<p>CDP 1.4 – Submit a bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund by April 2020 to restore the canal link between Stonehouse and Saul.</p> <p>Complete - The Bid was submitted on 1st June and the CDP objective is thus complete. It was delayed from April with Lottery's agreement due to COVID. The Lottery Bid was successful and £8.9 million was awarded to the Council.</p>

	<p>Strategy and Resources Committee has agreed that the Council wishes to continue with the project and accept the lottery funding.</p>
	<p>CDP 1.6 – Create a strategic approach to building more effective partnerships with parish and town councils.</p> <p>There are currently six-monthly Town and Parish Council Information Network meetings. The topics covered range from reports from District inspector Glos constabulary, Fire service report on GFRS interactions with communities, Community safety update, and Environmental protection update. They have also had an intro to the SD of Communities. Next time there will also be a presentation on Waste as a new policy is going through Environment Committee in February.</p> <p>Covid members Updates are now all shared with Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p>As part of their Service Planning the Corporate Policy and Governance Team will be considering work with Parish Councils across the District Council and looking to develop a strategic approach.</p>
	<p>CDP 1.7 – Adopt a clear vision and digital strategy which is fit for purpose to deliver good quality, convenient and efficient services for staff, residents and local businesses.</p> <p>Interviews have recently been held for two senior posts within the IT team who will form part of the management structure to work on the digital platform. An Infrastructure and Security Manager has been appointed and a Head of Technology is likely to be appointed before the date of the Committee meeting.</p>
	<p>CDP 5.2 - Explore the opportunities for income generation to help achieve financial self-sufficiency</p> <p>The Budget Strategy has now been agreed by full Council. Financial estimates continue to be updated in light of pandemic impact.</p>
	<p>CDP 5.3 – Work collaboratively through partnerships and external stakeholders to achieve greater influence to deliver the Council’s objectives.</p> <p>The transfer to One Legal Completed on October 1st.</p> <p>The Council has recently been nominated for an APSE award for “Best Collaborative Working Initiative” for the work undertaken on the Green Homes project.</p>

<p>PROJECTS / CAPITAL PROGRAMME (if not covered in CDP)</p>	<p>The major capital projects for the Committee are the Canal and Brimscombe Port which are included in the actions above.</p> <p>The final units at the Littlecombe Business Park are all now under offer as discussed in a report to this Committee. Consideration is also being given to the remaining employment land on the development.</p>
<p>RISKS (see Excelsis)</p>	<p>CCR 1 Budget Savings 9/16</p> <p>Risk has been reviewed in the light of the Covid pandemic. The pandemic increases the uncertainty around the future financial position but at this stage the risk score remains unchanged.</p> <p>CCR 4 Business Continuity 16/16</p> <p>Following the changes that have come about due to the Covid -19, the delivery of services has changed from the normal delivery of service from the Ebley Mill to working from home. This has proven possible and successful. Further continuity is still being developed within the authority's modernisation plan.</p> <p>In light of this and improvements in digital infrastructure the risk scoring is to be reviewed.</p> <p>CCR10 Inability to recruit specialist staff 4/16 – (previous 16/16)</p> <p>Work with Ascend (OD Consultancy) has begun to create a people strategy for SDC that staff can relate to. We need to work to build a meaningful set of values and behaviours for the Council that develops our culture, encouraging openness, customer focus and collaboration.</p> <p>CCR 16 Inadequate telephony and IT infrastructure 16/16 –</p> <p>The scoring of this risk is due for imminent review.</p> <p>A programme of works to both upgrade the telephony infrastructure and rollout of softphones (initial phase) has commenced and is due complete in Dec 2020</p> <p>CCR20 – Brexit 16/16</p> <p>The UK is now in transitional arrangements having left the EU in January.</p> <p>The transitional period ends in December 2020 and central government has been clear that this will not be extended. This is likely to lead to an increase in no deal preparations as we move through 2020.</p>

	<p>Covid-19 pandemic 16/16</p> <p>The pandemic is being actively managed as an ongoing risk. It has significant impacts, short and long-term on service delivery and financial position. No specific risks have been recorded re Covid-19 response but SLT are meeting weekly to consider response.</p> <p>Response management and monitoring systems have been in place since March and will be continuing indefinitely. Some mechanisms of response were scaled back or stopped over the summer but have been stepped back again during the second wave.</p>
RELEVANT FINANCE ISSUES	The Council's Statement of Accounts has now been approved by the Audit and Standards Committee. Final sign off is expected shortly from Deloitte as the Council's external auditors.
ANY OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING (eg staffing / resources)	<p>The Council has won apprenticeship employer of the Year at the Gloucestershire Live awards.</p> <p>One of the current cohort of apprentices has won Intermediate Apprentice of the Year at the National Apprenticeship Awards</p>
FOLLOW UP (any issues for consideration at the next meeting)	
PERFORMANCE MEASURES (see <i>Excelsis where applicable</i>)	<p>None available at this point.</p> <p>Performance indicators need to be reviewed as part of future service planning in the next Corporate Delivery Plan.</p>

ANY ISSUES OF SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO BE REPORTED TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS	
ANY ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE	
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Nigel Cooper and Keith Pearson
DATE OF REPORT	01/12/2020

Please complete and return to Democratic Services ASAP for circulation to the Committee.