OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY 19 JULY 2016

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT	AGENDA ITEM No.
	14

TITLE OF REPORT: MONITORING REPORT ON PROJECTS IN THE PRIORITIES FOR THE DISTRICT FOR 2015/16

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR JULIAN CUNNINGHAM

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This monitoring report provides an update on the delivery of the key projects for 2015/16 identified to the Committee in March 2015.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That delivery against the key projects for 2015/16 be noted by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To enable achievements against the key projects for 2015/16 to be considered.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 There are no alternative options as this is a monitoring report.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1 No external consultation has been undertaken in the preparation of this report, as it is a monitoring report. Members will, however, be aware that a report setting out the key projects and a mid year monitoring report were brought to this Committee on 17 March 2015 and 8 December 2015.
- 5.2 The Executive Member has been kept fully informed with regard the delivery of key projects for 2015/16.

6 FORWARD PLAN

6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 This report provides details on the status of the key projects identified in the Priorities for the District 2015/16. It does not include any projects initiated after the document was agreed and is not a full report on all of the projects that the Council is undertaking.
- 7.2 This is the second year of the priorities that were agreed at the Council meeting on 5 September 2013.
- 7.3 Appendix A to this report summarises the status of each of the high level actions in the Priorities for the District 2015/16. Overall, where the delivery has been solely down to the Council good progress has been made. The following symbols have been used to summarise progress.

Project completed

Project not due for completion in 2015/16 or has not reached due date Project behind original due date

8. ISSUES

8.1 Project updates have been provided in Appendix A.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no legal implications arising from this monitoring report. Legal implications for each project are considered at the relevant stages of the project.
- 9.2 Overview and Scrutiny's terms of reference include "to review performance against the Council's agreed priorities and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or service areas".

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The actions identified were resourced through the corporate business planning process cycle for 2015/16 that was undertaken in 2014/15. A number of these projects formed part of the Council's capital programme for 2015/16.
- 10.2 The Council continues to face difficult spending decisions in view of the reduction in government support in future years and that the availability of funding will impact on the projects that can be undertaken.

11. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 As key projects for the Council, where relevant, each project has its own project risk log that is maintained by the Project Manager and reviewed by the Project Board. Some high value/cross cutting projects are considered as top risks for the Council and these have been monitored throughout 2015/16 by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of its functions, give **due regard** to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

12.2 By reporting delivery against the key projects for 2015/16 this provides a means to monitor whether the Council are meeting the stated outcomes of the district priorities, its targets or delivering accessible and appropriate services to the community to meet different people's needs. This assists the Council to fulfil a number of its obligations arising from the Public Sector Equality Duty.

13 SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 As the recommendations made in this report do not constitute a public service contract, the measurement of 'social value' as required by the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 need not be applied, although equalities implications and opportunities are identified in the relevant section at paragraphs 12.
- 13.2 Where the key projects referred to in this report relate to the award of a public service contract, 'social value' will be captured and reported in accordance with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

14 HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no additional human resource implications arising from this monitoring report. The resources needed to deliver projects should be considered through the Corporate Business Planning process.

15. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 15.1 Rachel Cooper Payments & Reconciliation Manager 01462 474606 rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk
- 15.2 Contributors

Anthony Roche Acting Corporate Legal Manager and Monitoring Officer 01462 474588 Anthony.roche@north-herts.gov.uk

Norma Atlay Strategic Director Finance, Policy & Governance 01462 474297 Norma.atlay@north-herts.gov.uk

Ian Fullstone Head of Development & Building Control 01462 474480 Ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk

Howard Crompton Head of Revenues, Benefits & IT 01462 474247 Howard.crompton@north-herts.gov.uk

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Projects listed in the Priorities for the District 2015/16 available on the Council's website. This does not include key projects that have been initiated since the document was approved.
- 16.2 Key actions recorded on Covalent, the Council's performance and risk software.

17. APPENDICES

17.1 Appendix 1 - 2015/16 Year-End Update - Priorities for the District Projects