

<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b> <b>09 MARCH 2021</b>
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<b>*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT</b>
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**TITLE OF REPORT - 3RD QUARTER MONITORING REPORT ON KEY PROJECTS FOR 2020 - 21**

REPORT OF: THE CONTROLS, RISK AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRIORITY: BE A MORE WELCOMING INCLUSIVE AND EFFICIENT COUNCIL / BUILD THRIVING AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES / RESPOND TO CHALLENGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT / ENABLE AN ENTERPRISING AND CO-OPERATIVE ECONOMY / SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF GOOD QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE HOMES

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This monitoring report provides a 3rd quarter update on the delivery of the key projects for 20/21, first identified to the Committee in March 2020.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. That delivery against the key projects for 20/21 be noted and commented on by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1. To enable achievements against the key projects for 2020/21 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 was brought to this Committee on 17 March 2020.

**6. FORWARD PLAN**

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

## 7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1. This report provides details on the status of the key projects for 20/21. It does not include any projects initiated after the document was agreed and is not a full report on all the projects that the Council is undertaking
- 7.2. This report summarises the status of each of the key projects. The following symbols have been used to summarise progress.

Status key	
	Project Halted / funding not available/ Extremely Late
	Project behind original due date/ unlikely to hit original due date.
	Project not due for completion in this year or has not reached due date
-	Project Pending
	Project Completed.

## 8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1. The 3rd Quarter monitoring report against key projects for 2020/21 is included in Appendix A.
- 8.2. Appendix A includes the original milestones which were reported to this Committee in March 2020 and progress made against those actions. In addition, updates may have been provided to Executive Members and where relevant through the Members Information Service. Progress against some, will also have been monitored through the Capital monitoring reports to the Finance Audit and Risk Committee and to Cabinet.
- 8.3. For Q3, 13 projects are being reported, 6 with Green Status, 5 Amber, 1 Completed project and 1 project currently showing as pending.
- 8.4. **Implementation of Customer and Member Portals moved to - Amber** – The Customer MyAccount portal is now live. We have gone with a soft launch, targeting e-billing customers and callers to the CSC to sign up initially, and this will be followed with a bigger launch, so this milestone is complete. The Councillor portal is in its very final stages and will be launched as soon as possible, however has not hit the target date of December 2020 due to a technical issue that was identified which has now been rectified with final testing underway.

- 8.5. **Renovate Play area, Howard Park, Letchworth moved to - Amber** – The Contract has been tendered and awarded. The first initial contract meeting took place week commencing 25 January 2021 and we are awaiting confirmation of delivery timescales for the new equipment. Estimated timeline is that the project will over run into the new financial year by approximately four weeks as a result.
- 8.6. **Brexit – Marked as Complete** - This action refers to the preparation for Brexit, with a due date of 31 December 2020 that was aligned with the end of the transition period. As the due date has now passed, this action has in effect been completed. Obviously, work continues to implement the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, relevant legislation and the risks/actions for NHDC continue to be recorded and monitored via the Corporate Risk entry. Officers (and Project Board) will consider if any of the associated actions should be included in the Key Projects Report for 2021/22, in the proposed close meeting in April.
- 8.7. At the Overview and Scrutiny meeting in December, the NHLC Leisure Centre Refurbishment was reported as complete and the project has now been removed from future monitoring reports.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1. No direct legal implications arise from this report. Legal implications for the projects listed in Appendix A are considered as part of those projects and will include (but are not limited to) governance, property, planning and contractual issues. Under the Local Government Act 2000 there is a legal requirement for Councils operating Executive arrangements to appoint an overview and scrutiny committee with remit to review decisions and other actions.
- 9.2. Overview and Scrutiny's terms of reference include at paragraph 6.2.7(s) of the Constitution "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". This report gives the Committee an opportunity to comment on progress made against the projects that have been identified for delivery against the Council's objectives.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1. There are no specific revenue implications.
- 10.2. The actions identified were resourced through the corporate business planning process cycle for 2020/21 that was undertaken in 2019/20. A number of these projects formed part of the Council's capital programme for 2020/21.

- 10.3 The Council continues to face difficult spending decisions in view of the reduction in government support in future years and the availability of funding continues to impact on the projects that can be undertaken.

## **11. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1. The Lead Officer for each project is responsible for identifying any risks to the successful delivery of the Project
- 11.2. Any major projects are identified as Corporate Risks for the Council and these are monitored by Risk Management Group and the Finance Audit and Risk Committee. These include the Local Plan.

## **12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1. In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their 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 2020/21 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 obligations arising from the Public Sector Equality Duty.

## **13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1. The Social Value Act and "go local" requirements do not apply to this report.

## **14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report. Environmental Impact Assessments will be undertaken where required for individual projects.

## **15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 15.1 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.

## **16. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 16.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report. However Environmental Impact Assessments will be undertaken for each individual Project as part of the project initiation stage.

## **17.APPENDICES**

17.1Appendix A – 3rd Quarter Monitoring against Key Projects for 2020/2021

## **18. CONTACT OFFICERS**

Rachel Cooper, Controls, Risk & Performance Manager, Tel 474606,  
[Rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk)

Ian Couper, Service Director, Resources Tel 474243;  
[ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk)

Jo Dufficy Service Director, Customers Tel 474555  
[jo.dufficy@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:jo.dufficy@north-herts.gov.uk)

Ian Fullstone, Service Director, Regulatory, Tel, 474480,  
[ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk)

Jo Keshishian, Corporate Human Resources Manager, Tel, 474224  
[jo.keshishian@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:jo.keshishian@north-herts.gov.uk)

Vaughan Watson, Service Director, Place, Tel 474641  
[Vaughan.watson@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Vaughan.watson@north-herts.gov.uk)

Jeanette Thompson, Service Director, Legal & Community. Tel 474370  
[Jeanette.thompson@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Jeanette.thompson@north-herts.gov.uk)

## **19. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

19.1None.