# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 13 JUNE 2022

### \*PART 1 - PUBLIC DOCUMENT

# TITLE OF REPORT – END OF YEAR MONITORING REPORT ON KEY PROJECTS FOR 2021 – 22

REPORT OF: THE CONTROLS, RISK AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRIORITY: ALL

### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monitoring report provides a year end update on the delivery of the key projects for 21/22, first identified to the Committee in March 2021.

# 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. That delivery against the key projects for 21/22 be noted and commented on by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To enable achievements against the key projects for 2021/22 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 16 March 2021.

## 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 21/22. 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 Completed.  |

# **RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS**

8.

- 8.1. The end of year monitoring report against key projects for 2021/22 is included in Appendix A.
- 8.2. Appendix A includes the original milestones which were reported to this Committee in March 2021 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 Q4, 11 projects are being reported, 7 with Amber status, 1 with Green status and 3 projects marked as complete. The number of projects with an Amber status reflects that this is the end of year report and a number of the milestones were set as 31<sup>st</sup> March. Therefore a number of projects have either completed, or are shown as Amber (i.e. the milestone set for 31<sup>st</sup> March was not achieved).
- 8.4 The following projects were completed during Q4:
  - Community lottery- as the lottery has been fully launched.
  - Property acquisitions- this has been embedded in to the normal work of the team, and opportunities will continue to be identified and investigated.
  - Community Tree programme- all the trees have been distributed.
- 8.5 The following projects have moved to Amber status during Q4 (from Green).
  - Provide housing at market rents- the conversion work at Harkness Court is being finalised and it is expected that marketing and lettings will commence in August.
  - Trial / Experimental EV Charging Points- Finalising work to appoint a private sector partner through a mini-competition and then submit grant

- submissions. Expected that the grant submissions will be made in the summer.
- Disposal of surplus land. Two land sales have been completed. Two of the sales have been delayed but expecting that they will complete in 2022/23.

# 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 2021/22 that was undertaken in 2020/21. A number of these projects formed part of the Council's capital programme for 2021/22.
- 10.3 The Council continues to face difficult spending decisions in view of the expected 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.

#### 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 enables 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. APPENDICES

16.1 Appendix A – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Monitoring against Key Projects for 2021/2022

# 17. CONTACT OFFICERS

Rachel Cooper, Controls, Risk & Performance Manager, Tel 474606, Rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk

Ian Couper, Service Director, Resources Tel 474243. ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk

Jo Dufficy Service Director, Customers Tel 474555 jo.dufficy@north-herts.gov.uk

lan Fullstone, Service Director, Regulatory, Tel, 474480, <a href="mailto:ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk">ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk</a>

Jo Keshishian, Interim Human Resources Services Manager, Tel, 474314 jo.keshishian@north-herts.gov.uk

Sarah Kingsley, Service Director, Place, Tel 474552 sarah.kingsley@north-herts.gov.uk

Jeanette Thompson, Service Director, Legal & Community. Tel 474370 <u>Jeanette.thompson@north-herts.gov.uk</u>

Steve Crowley, Service Director, Commercial. Tel: 474211 <a href="mailto:steve.crowley@north-herts.gov.uk">Steve.crowley@north-herts.gov.uk</a>

# 18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

18.1 None.