

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**17 September 2019**

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**TITLE OF REPORT: 1st QTR MONITORING REPORT ON KEY PROJECTS FOR 2019-20**

REPORT OF: THE SERVICE DIRECTOR: RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: LEADER OF THE COUNCIL: COUNCILLOR MARTIN STEARS - HANDSCOMB

COUNCIL PRIORITY: ATTRACTIVE AND THRIVING / PROSPER AND PROTECT / RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This monitoring report provides a 1st quarter update on the delivery of the key projects for 19/20, first identified to the Committee in March 2019.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That delivery against the key projects for 19/20 be noted and commented on by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 To enable achievements against the key projects for 2019/20 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 19 March 2019.

## 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 for 19/20. 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 2018/19 or has not reached due date
	Project Completed.

## 8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The 1st Quarter monitoring report against key projects for 2019/20 is included in Appendix A.
- 8.2 Appendix A includes the original milestones which were reported to this Committee in March 2019 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 At the Overview & Scrutiny committee meeting in March 2019, the Waste Project and the Construction of Roadway and Paths at Wilbury Hills Cemetery were reported as completed projects, and have therefore been removed from future monitoring reports.
- 8.4 At the September 2018 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny meeting it was requested that the Service Manager- Waste be requested to publish details of the statistics regarding reports of missed bins and calls made regarding this and communicate the details publicly. In order to fulfil this request, a more detailed update on the Waste Project has been provided in Appendix B. In addition, a regular waste update is now being sent via MIS.

- 8.5 Updates on Brexit have now been incorporated into the regular monitoring reports for 2019/20. Whilst not a traditionally defined project for the Council, it was decided that this would provide the best mechanism to monitor key issues and risk and report back on any actions undertaken.

## **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 2019/20 that was undertaken in 2018/19.. A number of these projects formed part of the Council's capital programme for 2019/20.
- 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 Some of these major projects have been identified as Corporate Risks for the Council and these are monitored quarterly by the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee. These include:
- Local Plan
  - Hitchin Town Hall
  - Asset Management
  - Brexit

## **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 2019/20 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 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this report.

## **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. APPENDICES**

- 15.1 Appendix A – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Monitoring against Key Projects for 2019/20  
Appendix B – Waste Project Update and Charts

## **16. CONTACT OFFICERS**

- 16.1 Rachel Cooper, Controls, Risk & Performance Manager, Tel 474606,  
[Rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk)
- 16.2 Ian Couper, Service Director, Resources Tel 474243;  
[ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk)
- 16.3 Howard Crompton, Service Director, Customers Tel 474247,  
[Howard.crompton@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Howard.crompton@north-herts.gov.uk)
- 16.4 Ian Fullstone, Service Director, Regulatory, Tel, 474480,  
[ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk)
- 16.5 Kerry Shorrocks, Corporate Human Resources Manager, Tel, 474224,  
[kerry.shorrocks@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:kerry.shorrocks@north-herts.gov.uk)
- 16.6 Vaughan Watson, Service Director, Place, Tel 474641  
[Vaughan.watson@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Vaughan.watson@north-herts.gov.uk)

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

**17. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

17.1 None.