

REPORT TO: CORPORATE, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 22ND SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CORPORATE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

REPORT TITLE: PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES – DRAFT
PORTFOLIO AGREEMENTS 2020/21

1. Introduction and Purpose

- 1.1 Policy priorities for 2020/21 were set out within the Council Plan, which was adopted at the Budget Council Meeting in February. This incorporates the shared outcomes from the Borough Plan alongside specific priorities of the Cabinet.
- 1.2 These priorities, re-shaped to take account of One Stockport and Building Back Better (building on Covid19), are articulated within the Portfolio Agreements, which form the basis for regular in-year reporting. Portfolio and Corporate Performance and Resource Reports (PPRRs and CPRRs) will assess progress against key objectives, priorities, outcomes and budgets, enabling Scrutiny Committees to hold the Cabinet to account and for the Cabinet to identify current and future risks to delivery.
- 1.3 This report presents the draft 2020/21 Agreements for the Resources, Commissioning & Governance and Citizen Focus & Engagement Portfolios for consideration and comment by the Committee.

2. Content of Portfolio Agreements

- 2.1 The Resources, Commissioning and Governance Portfolio includes the following services and functions within the Corporate & Support Services and Place Directorates:
- Finance
 - Technology Services
 - Electoral Services
 - STAR Procurement
 - Revenues and Benefits
 - School Admissions
 - People and Organisational Development
 - Legal and Democratic Governance
 - Business Support
 - Strategy and Design
 - Data services
 - Traded Services
 - Estate and Asset Management (Place)
- 2.2 The Citizen Focus and Engagement Portfolio includes the following key services and strategies with Corporate & Support Services and Place Directorates:

- Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG)
- Libraries
- Marketing and Communications
- Consultation and Engagement
- Registrars and Events
- Museums and Culture (Place)
- Complaints

2.3 Whilst the format of the 2020/21 Agreements is largely unchanged, delivery plan and performance framework content has been fully reviewed for 2020/21.

2.4 Portfolio priorities and delivery plans have been updated and aligned to emerging One Stockport and Building Back Better priorities and plans. Responding to Covid is reflected across all Portfolios, for example, Covid outbreak management (Adults and Health), schools support for children disproportionately impacted by Covid (Children, Family Services and Education), and VCSE building on recovery (Inclusive Neighbourhoods).

2.5 Following feedback at the June Scrutiny cycle about relevance of reported measures in some Portfolios, we are working towards a clearer link between strategic priorities, programmes, investments and impact through the measures included in our PPRAS particularly in relation to the cross-cutting transformation portfolios.

2.6 A full review of measures has been completed, with a number of new measures linked to priorities proposed for inclusion across Portfolios. Measures are categorised to reflect Council responsibility and are identified as either Council, Partnership or Contextual measures. A fuller definition of what these categories mean is contained in each of the Agreements.

2.7 Target-setting takes into account this responsibility and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Most measures will have targets (numerical; comparator; direction of travel), however, in some cases, where data is not available to reflect Covid impact (e.g. adult health and wellbeing measures) or where significant Covid impact has been experienced and robust target setting may not be possible (e.g. measures in relation to the economy and employment), targets may not be set. This will mean greater numbers of measures without targets in the 20/21 Agreements. Furthermore, given the ongoing uncertainty resulting from Covid (especially relating to economic and some health and care measures) we will continue to consider appropriate measures and targets over the year.

2.8 Following consideration and comment by Scrutiny, final versions of the Portfolio Agreements will be presented to the Cabinet for approval on 6th October.

3. Portfolio Performance and Reporting 2020/21

3.1 With input from Scrutiny Chairs, we will continue to review and make iterative improvements to Portfolio Performance and Resource Reports (PPRRs) during 2020/21.

3.2 Taking account of the reduced number of Scrutiny cycles, this year there will be two performance and resource reports covering Mid-Year (December) and Quarter 4/

Year End (June). Whilst Q1 reports were not produced this year (as per 2019/20), updates on performance measures (where available) and budget updates are included in the PPRAs.

- 3.3 This year the Corporate Performance and Resources report (CPRR) will adopt a slightly slimmed down format focusing on additional elements and analysis adding value on top of PPRRs. It will be presented to the Corporate Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee first alongside PPRRs in December and June, rather than at the later cycle, to ensure timeliness and avoid duplication.
- 3.4 Key performance measures reported in the CPRR will be reduced by around a third for 2020/21. "Corporate measures" are the critical measures of progress in delivering Portfolio and Corporate Priorities, identified in bold in the PPRAs. In 2019/20, the corporate measure suite included 54 Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) measures. Most of the reduction in measures reported in the CPRR this year will be accounted for by taking out GMS measures which either duplicated Stockport measures or had long time-lags in reporting. All GMS measures will continue to be reported in PPRRs and we would propose a continuation of the approach taken previously of aligned reporting of the GMS Implementation Report and dashboard to CLT, Scrutiny and Cabinet as and when a final position on these measures is reported to GMCA.
- 3.5 Portfolio dashboards based on the prototype specification (taking into account feedback Scrutiny Committee demos in February and March) will be launched with the first 2020/21 performance and resources reports in December.

4. Recommendations

Scrutiny Committee is asked to review and comment on the draft Portfolio Agreements.

Further Information:

- Council Plan 2020/21 - approved at Council Budget Meeting 27/02/2020
- 2020/21 Cabinet Revenue Budget and Capital Programme - also approved at Council Budget Meeting

Both available via

<http://scnmodgov.stockport.gov.uk:9070/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&MId=25395&Ver=4>

Contact officers for accessing background papers and discussing the report;

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