

PORTFOLIO DASHBOARDS

Report of the Director of Strategy

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Scrutiny committees receive twice-yearly update reports providing a comprehensive summary of progress against portfolio priorities, performance indicators and budgets. These reports are supported by Portfolio Performance Dashboards provides access to the latest data, including detailed trends, comparative analysis (where available) and commentary for all portfolio performance measures.
- 1.2 Scrutiny committees consider the Portfolio, Performance and Resources Agreements (PPRAs) at the first meeting of each municipal year (where possible). The two Portfolio Performance and Resources Reports (PPRRs) are submitted to those scrutiny committees that most closely align with the half-year reporting schedule, which will generally be the November cycle (for Q2 PPRRs) and the June cycle (for Q4 PPRRs). The current year's PPRAs and therefore considered at the same meeting as the previous year's Q4 PPRRs. As there are six cycles of scrutiny committees each year, this previously meant that there was no opportunity to directly comment on portfolio performance at the remaining four meetings.
- 1.3 To address this issue, in November 2021 the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee resolved that the 'Portfolio Dashboards' should be included as a standing item on all scrutiny committee agendas with the exception of any meeting where one of the quarterly portfolio performance reports was already listed for consideration.
- 1.4 The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee acknowledged that the dashboards would not be updated for each scrutiny round, and that members would only be able to view retrospective performance previously submitted as part of the regular PPRR reporting schedule.

2. PORTFOLIO DASHBOARDS

- 2.1 The web-based Performance Dashboards have been developed to support Members alongside the regular Performance and Resources reports considered by Scrutiny Committees. The dashboards were launched in November 2020 and are aligned to the seven Cabinet Portfolios. They support the council's ambitions to develop digital solutions and ensure intelligence-led decision making.
- 2.2 This work was undertaken in engagement with the Lead Cabinet Member along with Scrutiny Chairs, and the dashboards are updated twice a year, alongside the reports. They use the same Tableau software employed by GMCA in the dashboards they have developed to support the outcome frameworks for the GM Strategy and Police and Crime Plan.

AGENDA ITEM

- 2.3 The Portfolio and Corporate Reports each contain a unique hyperlink to the respective Portfolio Dashboard ‘landing page’ which will enable Members – and any interested members of the public – to access the latest data for each portfolio.
- 2.4 The dashboards provide access to the full set of portfolio measures, including historical trends and comparative data where this is available.

3. STANDING ITEM ON SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDAS

- 3.1 In line with the resolution of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, the standing portfolio dashboards item had been included on the agenda for the September cycle of scrutiny committees.
- 3.2 However, as the first PPRRs for the 2023/24 municipal year are not due to be submitted to committee until November 2023, the online portfolio dashboards have not yet been updated to reflect the realignment of cabinet portfolios or the revised performance measures considered by scrutiny committees and agreed by cabinet in July.
- 3.3 As the dashboards are only updated twice annually in line with the reporting arrangements for the Portfolio Performance and Resources Reports, it is the case that the dashboards will always retrospective outside of this reporting schedule and are not a real-time indicator for scrutiny committees of current performance against any of the indicators.
- 3.4 While this issue was recognised by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee when it made its initial decision in relation to the inclusion of the dashboards item, in practice, the retrospective nature of the dashboards has meant that none of the scrutiny committees have asked any further questions when this item has been listed on the agenda. It is therefore an opportune time to consider whether there remains any value in retaining the item on agenda for future meetings of the scrutiny committees.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is requested to consider whether it remains appropriate to retain the Portfolio Dashboards item on agendas for meetings of scrutiny committees where the Portfolio Performance and Resources Reports are not otherwise included on the agenda.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Kathryn Rees on 07989208640 or by email on kathryn.rees@stockport.gov.uk

