

CABINET – 7TH MARCH 2024
Report of the Scrutiny Commission

CORPORATE DELIVERY PLAN 2024-25

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-25.

Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Chief Executive.

Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendations set out.

Meeting Discussion

- i. The relocation of the CCTV Control Centre to the Beehive multi storey car park was to consolidate assets. Eventually the ICS building could become vacant and the Council would have options to repurpose the building.
- ii. It was intended that the delivery of a portfolio of projects would promote Charnwood Borough Council as a key employer to enable it to retain and attract a strong and committed work force.
- iii. There had been a Car Parking Strategy started, which had so far focussed on the Council's current assets and fees and charges in relation to car parking. The Car Parking Strategy was still in development and it was expected that a draft would be completed by March 2024, and a completion date had been set for early 2025.
- iv. The Green Fleet Review was exclude waste vehicles, and would include all over vehicles in the Council's fleet.
- v. The Domestic Abuse Policy was a regulatory expectation and would impact a number of areas across the Council, including Landlord Services, Housing Needs and the Community Safety team.
- vi. It was suggested that the Council should encourage more market traders to engage with the specialist markets to be held. It was expected that the increased participation of market traders would encourage more traders to attend. The Chief Executive agreed to discuss this with the Markets team at the Council.

- vii. It was highlighted that a lot of the work associated with the 'Economy and Growth' section of the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-25 would be focussed in the Loughborough Area as there was a significant amount of work associated with the Loughborough Town Deal being delivered. It was suggested that more work to support parishes and highstreets in other areas of the Borough would be welcomed.
- viii. There was an existing budget that the Loughborough Mela was able to access and organisers had been advised that they were able to bid for funding through the community grants process. An annual amount had been requested; however, this would need to be weighed in the future against other pressures.
- ix. The new major summer event would bring something new to the Borough to attract more visitors. There was a desire to increase commerciality to avoid financial strains on the Council's budgets.
- x. It was suggested that the Council considered the resettlement requirements of Asylum Seekers in future Corporate Delivery Plans. It was recognised that there were ongoing challenges and that the Council was limited, but would do as much as possible to support Asylum Seekers. The Council had an internal Ukraine group which looked at the support offered by the Council and a lot of the work required to rehome Asylum Seekers had been undertaken by existing teams within the Council. There had been no additional financial resources provided by Government to support this work. The Council also funded Equality Action Charnwood as a Strategic Partner, to provide advice and support to Asylum Seekers in need of resettlement.
- xi. The Council's Bereavement Services provided by North West Leicestershire District Council were due to end, and therefore the Council wanted to implement new arrangements for the delivery of an in-house Bereavement Service from September 2024. The change in service arrangements would not affect service users. It was possible that the service could be outsourced to other local authorities.
- xii. The way that Council Tax collections were recorded were incremental and were built up from quarter to quarter.
- xiii. Data on air quality was collected on the Ashby Road area and by Loughborough University, which were in close proximity to the incinerator. The Air Quality Strategy was intended to be Borough-wide and would likely include air quality in the Shepshed and Stonebow areas. The Chief Executive agreed to enquire about this with officers and feed back to members following the meeting.
- xiv. It was difficult to collect data on the percentage of Charnwood residents that were email subscribers. The Transformation and Improvement Manager agreed to liaise with the Communications Manager to see if this data was available, and would feed this back following the meeting. The Transformation and Improvement Manager highlighted that the Council was running a digital inclusion project which would support members of the public with channel shift.

It was emphasized that the Council's services were accessible to everyone and were not entirely digital.

- xv. The delivery of football infrastructure across the Borough would use existing Council assets.

Post meeting note: The Head of Contracts (Leisure, Waste and Environment confirmed that the delivery of football infrastructure would most likely be on Council land. The projects that the Council had in development were on Council owned assets, or land that was leased to the Council.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information on this in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	Yes
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 115 2023/24, 4th March 2024.
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