

**Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Subject: Programme of Portfolio Holder Attendance**

**Date: 17 July 2017**

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## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To consider the areas of responsibility of the Leader and Deputy Leader as part of the rolling programme of holding the Executive to account.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

At the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Members agreed to continue with a programme of attendance by Portfolio Holders, and relevant officers, at committee. Areas of performance, within each portfolio for examination, would be identified, and questions for the Portfolio Holder submitted in advance of each meeting. 'Ad hoc' questions could also be put forward at the meeting itself. Non-executive Members are also invited to submit questions for the Portfolio Holder.

## **3. 2016/2017 PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE**

**3.1** Councillor John Clarke Leader of the Council, and Councillor Michael Payne Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation, are attending the committee to give Members the opportunity to examine their areas of responsibility which include:

### **Leader of the Council**

#### **Councillor John Clarke**

- Overall strategy and delivery of agreed Council priorities and objectives.

- Oversight of all Cabinet responsibilities.
- Building and developing relationships with partners at a local, regional, national and international level to pursue matters of interest to the Council and the community.
- Representing the interests of the Council and the wider community on the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority, East Midlands Council, and other key strategic local, regional and national bodies.
- Oversight of the Council's Collaboration Agreement with Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe Councils.
- Building and maintaining positive relationships with and between elected Members and employees.
- Promoting and encouraging effective corporate governance and the highest standards of probity.

## **Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources& Reputation**

### **Councillor Michael Payne**

- Budget strategy, financial management and local taxation.
- Asset Management, including the Council's investment property, sales and purchase of land
- Communications, marketing and promotion.
- Media relations.
- Customer Services, information and communications technology

Customised reports detailing performance outcomes for Q4 are attached at **Appendix 1** to assist Members' identify areas for consideration.

### **3.2 Questions and areas for discussion received in advance of the committee.**

## **Leader**

- Have there been any business contingency, emergency planning or business continuity strategies developed? For example to respond to drought or changes in the economic climate.
- In relation to building and developing relationships with partners at a local, regional, national and international level. What relationships have been formed, at what level and what benefits have been derived?
- To enhance the building, and maintaining, of positive relationships between elected Members and employees could a target be set advocating reply times.
- **L1006** Working Days lost to sickness. What measures are being considered that may have a positive impact? Should a target figure of nine days be considered? What are the main reasons for absence?

## **Deputy Leader**

- **L1057** Are there any plans to increase the target when the current target has been exceeded.
- **LI017** Percentage of Business Rates collected: noting that the percentage collected for 2016/17 is at 98.71% and is slightly below target of 98.90%, can the Deputy Leader give the balance owed in monetary terms, and explain what measures are taken to recover it
- **LI016** Percentage of Council Tax collected: noting that the percentage collected for 2016/17 is at 98.40% and is slightly below target of 98.50%, can the Deputy Leader give the balance owed in monetary terms, and explain what measures are taken to recover it.
- How does the council ensure it gets the best deal when negotiating developer contribution
- Please explain what is being done to create a stronger commercial and entrepreneurial culture?

## **4. FUTURE PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE**

A programme of future Portfolio Holder attendance is currently being developed.

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- consider, ask questions and comment on the information provided
- thank Councillors Clarke, Payne and other guests for their attendance

## **APPENDICIES**

### **Appendix 1: Q4 Leader & Deputy Leader**