

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: **Programme of Portfolio Holder Attendance**

Date: 18th January 2021

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- I. To consider areas of responsibility of Councillor Wheeler, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Health and Wellbeing, and Councillor V McCrossen, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities, as part of the programme of holding the Executive to account.
- II. To discuss issues for examination in the Growth and Regeneration portfolio in preparation for the March committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- consider, ask questions and comment on the information provided
- thank Councillor Wheeler, Councillor McCrossen and other guests for their attendance
- discuss and consider areas for examination in Councillor Hollingsworth's and portfolio

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the 6th July 2020 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. 2020/2021 PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE

- 3.1** Councillor Wheeler, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Health and Wellbeing, and Councillor V McCrossen, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities are attending the committee to give members the opportunity to examine issues in their portfolios.
- 3.2** Areas of responsibility in the Housing, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio include:
- Leisure Centres and Sports Development, including lead for sport and physical activity
 - Health promotion and development
 - Bonington Theatre
 - Homelessness and Housing Needs
 - Council housing development
 - Housing and Council Tax Benefits
 - Liaison with Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 3.3** Areas of responsibility in the Young People and Equalities Portfolio include:
- Play and events for young people
 - Equalities
 - Youth Council and Youth Mayor
 - Engagement and Consultation with young people
 - Liaison with various bodies and agencies in relation to mental health
 - Support the Deputy Leader in the development of a Social Mobility Commission and delivery of agreed key actions
 - Work with the Portfolio holder for Growth and Regeneration in reducing levels of youth employment
 - Work with the Portfolio holder for Public Protection to reduce risk and fear of crime for young people.
- 3.4** Customised reports detailing performance outcomes for Q2 are attached at **Appendix 1 and 2** to assist members identify areas for consideration.
- 3.5** Of particular concern currently, is an issue that cuts across both portfolios, is the detrimental impact the Covid pandemic has had on mental health for all age groups. This has been particularly acute for some children and young people who have very serious anxiety issues related to Covid, increased by the cancellation of exams, lost education and disruption to social friendship groups.

- 3.6** Councillor Wheeler and Councillor McCrossen will discuss how the pandemic has impacted on mental health and the lack of mental health services for young people. Information about local mental health services for young people in Nottinghamshire is attached at **Appendix 3**. Results from a recent consultation with young people about their experiences of life as a young person living in Gedling Borough will also be presented.
- 3.7** The equality and diversity consultation which is due to end mid-January will be discussed.
- 3.8** The following questions have been received in advance of the committee

The two questions below refer to the Quarter 2 Performance Report for Young People and Equalities

- I. When choosing interns are equality implications taken into consideration?
- II. Would it be possible for clarification about the 'specific reference to consideration of equalities implications' mentioned in the excerpt below
The Project Management process has been updated to include a specific reference to consideration of Equalities Implications. This will ensure that equalities implications will be considered as part of the project.
Is it just a sentence signposting?

The question below is to both Portfolio Holders and refers to their policy advisors.

How have they used them and do they feel that the role is necessary, beneficial and cost effective?

4 FUTURE PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE

Councillor Hollingsworth, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration will be attending the next meeting of the committee to give members the opportunity to examine areas of responsibility in her portfolio

- Planning policy, development management and building control
- Transportation
- Town centre management and development
- Business improvement, local business engagement, promotion and support
- Housing Development
- Employment and skills

A customised report detailing performance outcomes for Quarter 2 for the above portfolio is attached at **Appendix 4** to assist members identify areas for consideration. Quarter 3 performance information will be sent out to members of the committee prior to Councillor Hollingsworth's attendance.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications arising out of this report.

7 Equalities Implications

7.1 There are no equalities implications arising out of this report

8 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

8.1 There are no carbon/environmental/sustainability implication arising out of this report.

9 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1: Q 2 Performance Health, Housing and Wellbeing
Appendix 2 Q 2 Performance Young People and Equalities
Appendix 3 Mental Health Services Information
Appendix 4 Q 2 Performance Growth and Regeneration