

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Holding the Executive to Account

Scrutiny Monitoring – 14 June 2018

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
11/01/18	Health and Community Safety	Safe City Partnership Annual Review	<p>1) That the Committee are provided with the following information from 2010 to 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of police officers in Southampton • The police recorded crime rate in Southampton per 1,000 population. 	<p>Hampshire Constabulary are in the process of collating the number of police officers in Southampton. It will be circulated to the Committee when available.</p> <p>Total crime rate per 1000 population in Southampton:</p> <p>2010/11 – 117 2011/12 – 112.1 2012/13 – 91.5 2013/14 – 89 2014/15 – 95.1 2015/16 – 109.2 2016/17 – 121.5</p>	
12/04/18	Children's Social Care	Call In – Development of an offer for children with disabilities	<p>1) That officers review the consultation and communication processes to ensure that, as the proposals are implemented, the Council is engaging with as many parents, carers and children and young people with disabilities as possible.</p>	<p>All 1200 families on the Buzz Network have been written to, on the addresses we currently have for them asking them to update all of their current contact details. Additionally, these forms have been shared with key stakeholders, including schools and settings for sharing with parents. These forms have also been shared via social media, and uploaded to the SEND Local Offer on the Southampton Information Directory.</p> <p>In April and May 2017, officers held four meetings with representatives from the Parent Carer Forum to discuss what the positives and negatives of the eligibility and service offer were. These involved around 5 parents at each meeting</p>	Completed

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				<p>however during this period they were asking questions of the wider forum membership, particularly via the forum's Facebook group. In addition a Facebook live session was undertaken during the consultation (February 2018) and has been viewed over 780 times. Following these meetings, a review and redesign group met every month to progress the proposals, this included a representative of the parent forum.</p>	
			<p>2) That the communication with young people with disabilities, parents and carers provides clear information on the relevant rights of children with disabilities and parents/carers as well as the Council's complaints process.</p>	<p>Families of children and young people with SEND are routinely referred the Impartial Information, Advice and Support Service for information on, and support with exercising their rights. All families accessing the buzz network (including Jigsaw families) have received communication regarding the new eligibility and short breaks offer, and this letter includes details of the council's complaints service.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
			<p>3) That consideration is given to utilising the expertise and experience acquired by the Integrated Commissioning Unit to support quality assurance and control processes within the Council's in house social care services.</p>	<p>Following discussion it was identified the Children's services have a whole service quality assurance framework which operates varying self-assessment and audit routines which is further cross checked by the council's Policy, Partnership and Strategic Planning Service. Additionally we have an internal audit team who work across Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council who regularly review service areas to ensure that we are working in line with national and local protocol.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

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			4) That officers factor intelligence based on migration data into decisions relating to future service demand.	Information has been requested from Intelligence team and will inform service design and development.	
			5) That a written update is provided to the Committee in 6 months' time and that the subject returns to the OSMC agenda in 12 months' time.	Due September 2018 and March 2019	
12/04/18	Leader	Planning Enforcement Update	1) That the Administration add planning application performance relating to major and minor applications to the Council's set of key corporate indicators.	A review of the Council strategy and appropriate metrics will be undertaken by Cabinet and this will include whether planning application performance is to be added to the Council's set of key corporate indicators.	
			2) That key planning metrics are provided to the Planning Panel on a regular basis.	The Planning Panel will be provided with quarterly reports on planning application performance. These will be provided in each quarter following the submission of returns to MHCLG.	
			3) That, reflecting the lack of political awareness of the planning performance data, officers review the processes and governance relating to the Council's performance reporting and performance management.	Recent organisational changes have included the appointment of a Service Manager responsible for Performance & Service Delivery, in the Infrastructure Planning and Development team, who is reviewing performance management and reporting arrangements for the service. This role will ensure the provision of quarterly information to the Planning Panel.	
			4) That a briefing paper is circulated to all councillors on Section 70 planning powers.	The Senior Solicitor produced a briefing paper on 20 th November 2017 for Planning Officers. A copy will be circulated to the Committee prior to the 14 June 2018 meeting.	

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			5) That consideration is given to the actions that can be taken to improve the sharing of intelligence from HMO licensing and Planning Enforcement to support more informed, targeted and robust enforcement activity.	The Planning Enforcement Supervisor and HMO Licensing Team do share information and intelligence. The effectiveness of this information sharing is to be included in the terms of reference for the Planning Enforcement review which will be tendered in June 2018.	
			6) That, to help target enforcement action, work is undertaken to determine the holistic cost to the public purse generated by developers who are known to consistently disregard planning legislation. Legal Services can then be challenged to find solutions to the issues raised.	Considerable resource would be required to carry out such a robust evaluation. An additional post within the Enforcement Team is currently being recruited. Once the new post-holder is in place (late summer 2018). Due to resource pressures within the Enforcement Team (current workload), the work of the team has had to be largely reactive rather than more proactive, targeted enforcement action. It is hoped that this additional resource will enable more proactive work to take place.	
			7) That consideration is given to how improvements can be made relating to keeping residents informed about enforcement activity, without impacting on the capacity of Enforcement Officers to undertake their enforcement role.	It is proposed that the Enforcement Team provide ward members with regular updates on enforcement activity. They can then act as a conduit for this information for their communities. It should be noted that enforcement activity can be sensitive so in such instances updates will provide an overview only.	
			8) That the Committee are provided with the contractual position relating to the provision of performance metrics for the Planning IT system (Planning Portal).	The Service Lead - Digital & Strategic IT has confirmed that performance metrics for the online planning system were not previously available. However, she has undertaken to provide performance metrics in future. These will be made available for the OSMC to consider.	

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			<p>9) That the Committee are provided with planning enforcement activity data for 2017/18.</p>	<p>The Service Lead: Infrastructure, Planning & Development will provide an annual report on enforcement activity each year. This will provide a summary of all formal notices that were served and prosecutions. It will also summarise the number of cases resolved and still outstanding for that year.</p> <p>A report covering the period 1st April 2017 – 30th March 2018 is now being collated and will be reported to Planning and Rights of Way Panel.</p>	
			<p>10) That, within the law, officers consider best practice to minimise the amount of information that is made publicly available about residents who comment on planning applications through the Council's Planning IT system.</p>	<p>Redaction of some details currently takes place. The availability of addresses can sometimes be helpful to panel members, when considering the weight of comments on applications. Officers in Planning and Legal colleagues will consider options and agree with the portfolio holder any changes in further redacting information.</p>	