

Northumberland County Council

Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monitoring Report 2019-2021

## 1. Terms of reference:

- (a) To maintain an overview of the Council's Annual Budget and Budgetary Management via the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- (b) To review the state of Northumberland and the County Council's activity in delivering its Corporate Plan.
- (c) To maintain an overview of the Council's performance management arrangements; highlighting areas of poor performance and monitoring recovery delivery plans.
- (d) To maintain an overview of the Management Agreements in place between the Council and Advance Northumberland (Northumberland Development Co).
- (e) To monitor, review and make recommendations about:
  - Corporate Services: Organisational Development, Health and Safety, ICT Strategy, Corporate Governance, Financial Services, Procurement Strategy, Risk Strategy, Shared and Traded Services;
  - Partnership Development Co-ordination with Local Organisations;
  - Relationships with External Bodies;
  - Regeneration and Economic Development;
  - Strategic Transport Network and Infrastructure;
  - Employability, Skills, and Removing Barriers to Work;
  - Capital Programme and Asset Management, and
  - Support to VCS Organisations and the Council's Relationship with Town and Parish Councils

Northumberland County Council  
Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019-2021

9 November 2020

Covid 19 Recovery Update

7 December 2020

11 January 2021

Economic Recovery from Covid 19

8 February 2021

Budget 2020/21

8 March 2021

12 April 2021

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Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Outcome
1.	10 June 2019	<b>Devolution of the Adult Education Budget to the North of Tyne Combined Authority</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supports the recommendations in the report.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 11 June 2019.
2.	10 June 2019	<b>Annual Update Report for Workforce</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that (a) the report be noted; (b) an annual update of this report for every financial year be presented to the Committee; (c) the whistleblowing data that is contained in the body of the report and the ongoing work to promote a safe environment for staff to raise concerns through various mechanisms across the Council, be noted, and (d) the continued use of Safecall across the Council as a mechanism for staff to raise whistleblowing concerns accordingly, be supported.	The Committee will receive this report annually.
3.	8 July 2019	<b>Debt Recovery Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted and answers to members' further queries be provided after the meeting.	The Committee will continue to receive 6 monthly updates. A presentation on enforcement action be given to the Committee at the time of the next update.
4.	8 July 2019	<b>Blyth Relief Road</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be advised that the committee supports the recommendations in the report.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 9 July 2019.

5.	8 July 2019	<b>Advance Northumberland Limited</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be: (a) advised that the committee supports the recommendations in the report; and (b) requested to agree to a review process taking place within a reasonable timescale.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 9 July 2019.
6.	8 July 2019	<b>Northumberland Lottery</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be advised that the committee supports the recommendations in the report, including a preference for calling it the 'Northumberland Lottery'.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 6 August 2019.
7.	11 November 2019	<b>Budget 2020-21 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020-2023</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be advised that the committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 12 November 2019.
8.	11 November 2019	<b>Governance for the Borderlands Partnership</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be advised that the committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 12 November 2019.
9.	9 December 2019	<b>Northumberland Climate Change Action Plan 2020-21</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be advised that this committee supports the recommendations as outlined in the report.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 10 December 2019.  The relevant OSC would receive regular updates on the implementation of the action plan.
10.	9 December 2019	<b>Debt Recovery Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that (1) the report be noted; and (2) requests made for additional updates be followed up after the meeting.	The Committee will continue to receive 6 monthly updates. A report will be prepared outlining the assistance that officers provide to low income households to manage their Council debt - to be presented to the OSC on 9 March 2019.
11.	10 February 2020	<b>Budget 2020-21 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020-22</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet be asked to note the issues raised by this committee.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 11 February 2020.
12.	10 February 2020	<b>The Northumberland Line - Rail Network</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the recommendations to Cabinet be supported.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 11 February 2020.

		<b>Enhancements Pipeline Progress</b>		
13.	10 February 2020	<b>Proposed Incorporation - Group Holding Company for Northumberland County Council</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the recommendations to Cabinet be supported.	The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it approved the report on 11 February 2020.
14.	9 March 2020	<b>Debt Recovery Arrangements – Support to Customers with Financial Difficulties</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that (a) the contents of the report be noted; and (b) answers be organised to the issues raised by committee members.	The Committee requested additional information on a number of issues arising from the report. Responses to those questions would be included in the next Debt Recovery Update.
15.	9 March 2020	<b>Debt Recovery - Enforcement</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information be noted.	The Committee requested additional information on a number of issues arising from the report. Responses to those questions would be included in the next Debt Recovery Update.
16.	13 July 2020	<b>Covid-19 - Northumberland County Council Response</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the reports be noted and the issues identified by members be included in the work programme.	The issues raised will be considered by Chairmen's Group for inclusion on the work programmes of the relevant OSC.
17.	13 July 2020	<b>Covid-19 - Planning for Recovery in Northumberland</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the reports be noted and the issues identified by members be included in the work programme.	The issues raised will be considered by Chairmen's Group for inclusion on the work programmes of the relevant OSC.  Further updates will be presented to Cabinet and the OSCs as appropriate.
18.	13 July 2020	<b>Annual Update Report for Workforce 2019/20</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that:- (a) the contents of the report be noted; (b) an annual update of the report be received for every financial year; (c) the data contained in the whistleblowing report and the ongoing work to promote a safe environment for staff to raise concerns through various mechanisms across the Council be noted;	A further update be presented to the Committee later in the year on the issues raised by the Committee.

			<p>(d) the continued use of Safecall across the Council as a mechanism for staff to raise concerns accordingly be supported; and</p> <p>(e) the issues identified by members for further action be followed up.</p>	
19.	13 July 2020	<b>Debt Recovery Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the contents of the report be noted and the issues identified by members for further action be followed up.	A further update be presented to the Committee later in the year on the issues raised by the Committee.