

Northumberland County Council

Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2023-2024

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## 1. Terms of reference:

- (1) To maintain an overview of the Council's Annual Budget and Budgetary Management via the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- (2) To review the state of Northumberland and the County Council's activity in delivering its Corporate Plan.
- (3) To maintain an overview of the Council's performance management arrangements; highlighting areas of poor performance and monitoring recovery delivery plans.
- (4) To maintain an overview of the Management Agreements in place between the Council and Advance Northumberland.
- (5) 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 coordination 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
  - Support to VCS organisations and the Council's relationship with town and parish councils.

### To be Timetabled:

This will include the OSC being more proactive in early stage development work in formulating new policies and strategies; to investigate matters of interest and concern to the wider community, and to keep under review the performance and financial position of the Council.

- Capital Programme (monitoring slippage)
- Gigafactory Site, Cambois

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29 January 2024

**Broadband Rollout**

To provide an update on the rollout of Broadband in the county.

**Debt Recovery Update**

To provide the Committee with information regarding the level of outstanding debt owed to the Council and to give assurance as to the efficiency and effectiveness of its collection and recovery policies and systems.

**Workforce Update**

To provide additional information to the Annual Workforce Report which had been presented to the September meeting.

25 March 2024

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Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Outcome
1.	26 June 2023	<b>Presentations from Executive Directors on Forthcoming Issues (Jan Willis/Simon Neilson)</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information was noted and the issues identified for further examination be included on the Committee's work programme.	The work programme will continue to develop in accordance with the Committee's priorities.
2.	26 June 2023	<b>Financial Performance 2022/23: February 2023 (Provisional Outturn 2022/23)</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that (a) the information be noted, and (b) a report be presented to the next meeting setting out the proposals for ensuring the delivery the Parks and Green Spaces Programme.	A report on the issues identified regarding Parks and Green Spaces be prepared for the next meeting.
3.	26 June 2023	<b>Debt Recovery Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.	The Committee will continue to receive six monthly updates.
4.	25 September 2023	<b>Regeneration Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information in the presentation be noted.	Further updates be presented as requested by the Committee.
5.	25 September 2023	<b>Parks and Green Spaces</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information be noted.	No further action necessary.
6.	25 September 2023	<b>Financial Performance 2023/24 - Position at End of June 2023</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information be noted.	The Committee will continue to receive further updates.
7.	25 September 2023	<b>Performance of the Northumberland Lottery</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the information be noted.	No further action necessary.
8.	25 September 2023	<b>HR Annual Update</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> that (a) the report be noted; (b) the Committee agreed to continue to receive the Workforce Update annually; (c) the data that was 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 on outstanding issues be presented to the OSC in January 2024.

			(d) the continued use of Safecall across the Council as an additional mechanism for staff to raise concerns be supported, and (e) the additional information requested by members as set out above, be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.	
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