

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

THURSDAY, 9TH JULY, 2020, 6.00 PM

VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS AND YOUTUBE

### **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the above meeting of the Scrutiny Committee, the following information:

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <p><b>5 Minutes of meeting Monday, 22 June 2020 of Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel</b></p> <p>To be noted.</p>      | <p>(Pages 57 - 60)</p> |
| <p><b>8 Worden Hall Progress Update</b></p> <p>Report of the Assistant Director of Projects and Development attached.</p> | <p>(Pages 61 - 64)</p> |

Gary Hall  
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Electronic agendas sent to Members of the Scrutiny Committee

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**MINUTES OF SCRUTINY BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**

**MEETING DATE** Monday, 22 June 2020

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors David Howarth (Chair), Will Adams, Colin Coulton, Colin Sharples and Karen Walton

**CABINET MEMBERS:** Councillor Paul Foster (Leader of the Council and Leader of the Labour Group)

**OFFICERS:** Gary Hall (Interim Chief Executive), James Thomson (Deputy Director of Finance), Victoria Willet (Service Lead - Transformation and Partnerships), Howard Anthony (South Ribble Partnership Manager), Darren Cranshaw (Assistant Director of Scrutiny & Democratic Services) and Charlotte Lynch (Democratic and Member Services Officer)

**1 Apologies for Absence**

None.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**3 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Chair thanked Councillor Colin Coulton for chairing the last meeting of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel in his absence.

RESOLVED: (Unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting, held on Monday, 10 February 2020, be signed as a correct record by the Chair.

**4 Matters Arising from Previous Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel Meetings**

Members received a report which provided an update on matters arising from previous meetings of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel.

It was acknowledged that the revenue budget summary had been shared with Panel members, as requested, but that the report had not been updated to reflect this.

The report was noted.

## 5 Year End and Quarter 4 (Jan - Mar 2020) Performance Monitoring Report 2019/20

The Panel considered a report of the Interim Chief Executive which outlined the Council's performance against the delivery of the Corporate Plan projects and objectives during Quarter 4 (Jan-March 2020).

Overall, performance of the projects was good, with 4 of 43 succeeding and 32 on-track.

Given recent issues surrounding the council's Annual Governance Statement, members of the Panel welcomed assurances by the Shared Services Lead for Partnerships and Transformation that the data provided in the performance monitoring report was robust.

Discussion largely focused on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Council's performance and members were advised that, although a significant financial impact was anticipated in the next year, the pandemic had a minimal impact on performance in Quarter 4. This was largely because the virus had not peaked during the quarter.

Members noted that a member working group on business recovery post-COVID-19 had been established to look at how the Council could provide local businesses with support and access to funding. Members were also informed that the Council was still in the 'containment' phase and that emphasis was on maintaining service delivery whilst adhering to new health and safety measures as advised by government.

It was acknowledged that some of the targets within the Corporate Plan would be reviewed as a result of COVID-19 and as part of a refresh of the Corporate Plan in September 2020, including resource allocation. Further information on this would be provided to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel.

In response to queries around the financial impact on COVID-19 on performance, members were informed that there had been some savings as a result of services being online-only and that the council had received £1 million in central government grants to manage the crisis.

Members noted that the surplus site review was off-track and enquired as to whether this was due to issues with capacity. Whilst it was acknowledged that the team was not fully staffed, an additional staff member had commenced work on the project. The task was identified as a priority by the Leader of the Council and the Interim Chief Executive.

A key line of enquiry focused on the holiday hunger scheme and its 14.7% redemption rate. In response, numerous challenges were acknowledged with regards to the scheme including accessibility, as many families did not shop where the vouchers were redeemable, and demographic diversity across the borough. Members were assured that the council had supplemented the scheme with additional food packages where needed.

In response to queries regarding the MH2K project, which was listed as being off-track, it was recognised that COVID-19 had impacted recruitment to the Youth

Engagement Officer post but that this would begin again soon. The project was ongoing and further detail would be provided when appropriate.

The Panel also requested further information on the cost breakdown for the implementation of Tempo time credits.

Further to discussion, members sought assurances that the appropriate resources were in place to deliver the council's Corporate Plan. In response, the Panel was informed that structures and resourcing had been examined and that more capacity and resilience was anticipated with the development of shared services with Chorley Council.

A residents' survey had recently been undertaken and, in response to member queries on how the findings would be used to improve services, it was explained that the findings would be assessed robustly against baselines which had been devised through comparisons with similar local authorities.

The Panel commended the Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery plans for the future and thanked the Leader and Interim Chief Executive for their attendance.

RESOLVED: (Unanimously)

1. the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel looks forward to receiving a copy of the ICT Benefit Realisation Plan once finalised
2. the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel acknowledges that some of the targets within the Corporate Plan will need to be reviewed in light of COVID-19 and as part of a refresh of the Corporate Plan in September 2020, including resource allocation
3. further information on the costs of the Tempo time credits project be provided to the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel

Chair

Date

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REPORT TO	ON
Scrutiny Committee	9 July 2020



TITLE	REPORT OF
Worden Hall update report	Director of Planning and Property

Is this report confidential?	No
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## PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report will update Scrutiny committee on the progress of the Worden Hall Project over the last 3 months during the Corona Virus crisis

## RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Scrutiny notes the progress of the Worden Hall Project

## CORPORATE OUTCOMES

3. The report relates to the following corporate priorities: *(tick all those applicable)*:

Excellence, Investment and Financial Sustainability	x
Health, Wellbeing and Safety	x
Place, Homes and Environment	x

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

Our People and Communities	x
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## BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

4. In June 2019 the Council appointed architectural consultant Purcell and financial consultants Amion to undertake a feasibility into potential future uses of Worden Hall. The consultant's report reviewed and modelled in detail, three options for bring the Hall back into use. These options consisted of a Community Use option, Small Weddings and Events option or large Weddings and Events option.

5. At the Cabinet meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the Cabinet recommended to rule out Option 3 following a public consultation exercise carried out and requested officers to work up a viable business plan for an enhanced Option 1 which combined Community Use as well as providing for small weddings and events.
6. A multi- disciplinary officer group then worked with the architectural and financial consultants to develop the proposals.
7. The proposals form a hybrid of options 1 and 2 considered at the Cabinet Meetings on the 16 October 2019 and 22 January 2020.
8. The plans have been developed by Purcell Architects and the financial modelling has been undertaken by Amion consulting.
9. In March 2020 The Assistant Director for Housing and Property Peter McHugh left the organisation to take up a new position in local government. It was agreed that the project would now be led operationally by the projects team and the Assistant Director for projects and Development with continued support from the Director of Planning and Property and ultimately the portfolio holder for Finance, Property and Assets Cllr Matthew Tomlinson.
10. This reports represents a progress report on the Worden Hall project

#### **PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)**

11. A summary of the Hybrid Option proposals are set out below for information:
  - The proposals provide for a community option that repairs and refurbishes the existing buildings to provide a series of flexible spaces that can be booked out to local groups for meetings and events
  - The stables and Hayloft are re-purposed as a bar and green room with a hoist to provide access to the first floor along with a foyer to support the event space.
  - New covered courtyard is included to create the main entrance to the complex
  - Main hall with seated capacity for 100 people
  - Three leased offices/workspaces
  - Extended Café Space which is relocated from the stables to ground floor of the Derby Wing
  - Small manager's office and new toilet to be provided
  - New access formed to connect the Marsden Room to the craft units
  - Zoning of area to be developed including commercial quarter, festival court and café court
  - Potential for café to utilise Glass House for additional space on a seasonal basis.
  - Gallery to connect first floor to Hay loft with lift access provided to the clock tower to enable first floor to be accessible in line with DDA requirements
  - Marsden Room to be utilised for weddings and events with breakout space provided through the Festival Court and potentially the Commercial Zone (at agreed times).
12. The capital programme has been amended to reflect the cost of bringing the hall back into use.

13. To take the project forward a new Project team has been formed in the lockdown period. Whilst the pandemic has led to some delays the project team have been able to make progress meeting on a virtual basis.
14. From work undertaken already the project team have pulled together a brief from which the project is able move to the next stage i.e. develop the project to a point where it can be submitted for Planning for full permission
15. To support the Council in taking the project forward the contract with Purcell Ltd has been extended to point where-by the project is able to full planning permission (RIBA stage 3). The continued involvement of Purcell Ltd in the project means we are able to retain their knowledge and expertise on the project going forward.
16. Purcell Ltd have now been formally appointed by the Council and are working with the project team in taking the project forward towards been submitted for full planning permission in December of this year.
17. The work of Purcell Ltd will involve pulling together all aspects of the project highlighted above into a position where it can be submitted for full Planning permission in December 2020. The work will involve finalising all the designs for the project, the carrying out of all the necessary surveys required and satisfying the planning Authority on the all the Heritage and environmental aspects of the project.
18. Having achieved Planning permission, a further report on the project will be taken back to Cabinet to seek permission to start a procurement exercise to appoint a Contractor to carry out the refurbishment and construction works outlined above. In addition further reports will be brought back to Scrutiny as Worden Hall is a standing Item on the agenda

## **CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION**

19. An extensive consultation exercise has been carried out which resulted in high levels of involvement from the public. Over 500 respondents replied to the consultation exercise with the majority stating that they wanted the Hall to be a Community Venue which provided a space for meetings and hosted small weddings and events. The proposals outlined within the report are fully aligned to the feedback that was received through the public consultation exercise.

## **AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

20. The Council is committed to becoming Carbon neutral by 2030 and to tackle climate change and air quality. The proposed works shall be commissioned in such a way as to minimise the carbon footprint of bringing the hall back into use. The use of energy generation and efficiency measures shall be built into the procurement process in order to minimise running costs and energy inefficiency

## **OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

