

Report of	Meeting	Date
Deputy Chief Executive (Introduced by Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform))	Council	Wednesday, 21 September 2022

Is this report confidential?	No
------------------------------	----

Is this decision key?	Not applicable
-----------------------	----------------

South Ribble Annual Performance Report 2021/2022

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Cabinet with a summary of the council's achievements during 2021/22 and provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities facing the council in 2022/23.

Recommendations to Council

2. Council is asked to consider and note the report.

Reasons for recommendations

3. The Annual Report forms part of the council's performance management framework and supports the council in reflecting on its performance over the previous year.

Other options considered and rejected

4. N/A

Executive summary

5. Overall, the council has performed well against the Corporate Strategy 2021/22 with significant progress achieved against the key priorities. These include:
 - An exemplary council
 - Thriving communities
 - A fair local economy that works for everyone
 - Good homes, green spaces, healthy places
6. Despite the challenges and uncertainty resulting from the global pandemic (Covid-19) and other economic factors, the council has continued to deliver the priorities and projects set out in the 2021/22 Corporate Strategy successfully, whilst supporting businesses, leading community recovery, and maintaining high quality services.

- Looking ahead, challenges for the council include continuing to support residents and businesses to recover following the pandemic, responding to anticipated increase inflation and the cost of living, increased demand for local services, and continuing to tackle climate change.

Corporate priorities

- The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary council	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

Background to the report

- At Council on 24th November 2021, the Corporate Strategy was updated and refreshed to ensure that the Council can continue to meet the needs of the borough.
- The Annual Report is a key mechanism for presenting information about the Council's performance to residents, partners, and key stakeholders. The report provides information regarding the activities which have been delivered over the last year to meet our vision and corporate priorities.

Summary of the Report

- The South Ribble Annual Report for 2021/22 is available at Appendix A. The key headlines from the report are as follows:

Residents Survey

- In 2021, a residents' survey was undertaken to better understand the views on what communities within the borough think about their local area, the way in which the council delivers services, and support following the pandemic (Covid-19).
- Findings from the survey show overall resident satisfaction has increased compared to the previous survey conducted in 2020.
 - 85% of residents said they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live,
 - 75% of residents are satisfied with the way the council runs things,
 - 83% were satisfied with waste and recycling services,
 - 79% were satisfied with parks and green open spaces,
 - 90% of residents felt safe when outside in their local area during the day.
- When benchmarked against the Local Government Association (LGA) polling, South Ribble performed above the average in the three main areas of satisfaction:
 - as a place to live,
 - the way in which the council runs things,
 - providing value for money.

Key Achievements

An exemplary council

15. The council continues to strengthen partnership working by bringing together partners from across South Ribble and Chorley to form a single strategic partnership with greater impact. The partnership has developed its strategy and an action plan to drive change and influence strategic decision making on key areas of the economy, how we share and better use data and intelligence, and a model for joined up working that makes public services more straightforward and cost effective.
16. The Chorley and South Ribble Partnership hosted the first ever Economic Summit event, where local partners came together to discuss the future of the local economy following the pandemic. The outcomes from the summit event will contribute to future economic interventions and support.
17. The council took part in the Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Challenge in July 2021 as part of the council's commitment to improvement and received feedback on the council current strengths and any areas to embed further improvements. The peer team recognised the positive work and outcomes in relation to governance, delivering effective services throughout the pandemic and continuing to change ways of working.
18. Following the review, a report was published along with an action plan setting out how the council would respond to the recommendations. In April 2022, the peer team visited South Ribble to complete a six month review of progress against the initial action plan from their virtual visit in 2021. The feedback was very positive, and the LGA Peer team acknowledged the progress made and commended the council' approach to engaging with communities via the Community Hubs.

Thriving communities

19. As part of the council's commitment to supporting resident's positive mental health and wellbeing, Lancashire Youth Challenge was commissioned to deliver a 24-week programme to up to 20 young people, which focused on raising young peoples' aspirations, confidence building, and the development of emotional resilience.
20. To mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee, the council hosted a weekend of entertainment over the long bank holiday in June 2022. The planned celebrations held in Worden Park, included a Great British themed Leyland Festival, and was followed by an 80's themed Music in the Park event. The events provided a great opportunity to celebrate the Queens Jubilee marking 70 years of service to the people and bring local communities together, helping to boost the local economy following the pandemic and government restrictions. The extended bank holiday weekend was a major success with attendance for the events between 15,000 and 20,000 people.
21. The council continues to deliver projects within the action plans for each Community Hub area. Example of activities delivered include disabled access improvements to the Eagle and Child Bowling Club, delivery of South Ribble in Bloom, resocialisation/social isolation interventions such as chatty cafes, installation of happy to chat benches, and invested more than £25,000 to install Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at 14 different sites across the borough.

22. The Council has awarded over £14k to a range of community projects across the borough through the councils Community Boost Fund. The projects that received funding include the 'Love Where you Live' campaigns, working with local schools to design banners and posters to prevent dog fouling and littering, Penwortham Welcome (Deer Monument) and Coach House Christmas event, and Garden Angels (DBS checked volunteers support vulnerable residents to maintain their gardens).
23. In March 2022, the council working with the Football Foundation commenced works to the 'Bamber Bridge Sports Hub' as part of the council's commitment to investing in high quality community facilities and supporting residents to become more active through participation in sport. The development includes the creation of two new 3G artificial sports pitches, a fully-accessible single-story pavilion, and the extension of the existing car park at Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre.

A fair local economy that works for everyone

24. The Leyland Town Deal has progressed with land acquisitions taking place and business cases have been submitted to central government for the delivery of two key projects which aim to rejuvenate the town centre. The project includes, the Town Centre Transformation (including Market Regeneration) and the Business Advice, Skills and Enterprise Hub (BASE 2).
25. Businesses have continued to be supported to recover from the impacts of the pandemic to help maintain a strong business sector and support the local economy. The council have supported over 3,208 business and processed Covid-19 support grants totalling over £9.5 million. In addition to the grant support, the council has supported over 350 businesses with access to other available support services.
26. The first round of the Household Support Fund (HSF) was delivered to support the most vulnerable residents from the economic pressures facing communities and the recovery from the pandemic. Over 3,000 residents were able to benefit from the £270k fund, which provided support with adaptations to make homes more energy efficient, fresh food vouchers, school uniform, access to white goods and support with utility bills.

Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

27. As part of the council commitment to providing high quality affordable homes, work has progressed to deliver the McKenzie Arms and Jubilee Gardens Extra Care schemes. Construction work has commenced onsite to deliver the McKenzie Arms scheme. The development is set to be completed at the end of 2022 and will provide a mix of 15 new affordable townhouses and apartments in Bamber Bridge. The Jubilee Gardens Extra Care Scheme which will provide self-contained homes with support services to the over 55's to support independent living has progressed with design work and the appointment of a main contractor to deliver the scheme.
28. The programme to transform the historic Worden Hall building at the heart of Worden Park into a community and events venue is largely complete and it was partially opened ahead of the Leyland Festival in June 2022. The development work to the hall included the relocation of Folly Café to inside the hall and include upgrades to the foyer, refurbishment of the Marsden Room and first floor rooms into a flexible event space, demolition of the conservatory, works to the Courtyard Hall, extension of the car park and improvements to surrounding landscape. The Hall will be fully open to the public from mid-September 2022, with bookings for events taking place from spring.

29. The council has delivered a number of key activities to help address climate change and to protect the local environment, these include:
- The installation of solar panels at the Civic Centre providing renewable energy,
 - A home energy saving schemes promoted through the Council's website to encourage residents to consider their own energy consumption,
 - The installation of four new electric vehicle charging points at Leyland, Bamber Bridge, Lostock Hall, and Penwortham improving the green infrastructure of the borough,
 - Delivered 8km of improvements to footpaths across the green links network.

Council Spending

30. The Council has invested in improvements across the borough, which have helped to secure better long-term outcomes for residents in 2021/22. Examples of investments that respond to resident priorities include:
- £2 million invested to progress the delivery of affordable homes,
 - £500k to deliver a programme of improvements to community facilities,
 - £250k invested to support action on the green agenda,
 - £150k to deliver an extended programme of support for businesses

Future Challenges 2022/23

31. Looking ahead to 2022/23, we have a number of challenges that we will face as a local authority. As public spending continues to face pressure and the potential for impact across the economy it is essential that the Council continues to have a clear plan to deliver support for those who need it most while maintaining high quality public services.
32. As part of our Corporate Strategy, we will continue to invest in our communities to support a strong post-pandemic recovery. This includes in the progression and delivery of key development projects, such as the McKenzie Arms, Extra Care Scheme and Town Deal, which will provide essential facilities both for residents as well as businesses, building local assets. We will also continue with our ambition to deliver sustainable, efficient, and value for money services through delivery of phase two of shared services, finding new ways to deliver services through a single strategic partnership, and progression of our Green Agenda. This will ensure that we continue to foster thriving communities and deliver high quality services for our residents.

Climate change and air quality

33. The work noted in this report impacts on the following areas of climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda: net carbon zero by 2030, reducing waste production, limiting non sustainable forms of transport, working with sustainable and green accredited companies, limiting or improving air quality, limiting water waste and flooding risks, improving green areas and biodiversity.

Equality and diversity

34. Equality and Diversity is embedded within the Corporate Strategy and how the council acts. An equality impact assessment was undertaken as part of the corporate plan refresh and each individual project will have its own equality impact assessment.

Risk

35. Each corporate project delivered in 2021/22 had a risk register established on the GRACE risk management system to ensure the effective identification, monitoring, and mitigation of risks to the Corporate Strategy and its delivery. Risks to service level projects were also captured through service and business plan risk registers.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

36. There are no direct financial implications of this report. Financial performance reporting is done via quarterly reporting and budget setting reports.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

37. There are no concerns from a Monitoring Officer perspective. The report is for noting. It is part of our commitment to act in an open and transparent manner

Background documents

- [South Ribble Annual Report 2020/21](#)
- [Quarter One Performance Monitoring Report 2021/22](#)
- [Quarter Two Performance Monitoring Report 2021/22](#)
- [Quarter Three Performance Monitoring Report 2021/22](#)
- [Quarter Four Performance Monitoring Report 2021/22](#)
- [Corporate Strategy Update 2021](#)

Appendices

- Appendix A – South Ribble Council Annual Report 2021/22

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
Howard Anthony, Michael Johnson (Interim Shared Services Lead - Transformation and Partnerships, Policy Officer (Engagement))	howard.anthony@southribble.gov.uk , mjohnson@southribble.gov.uk	01772 625546	15/08/2022