

# Chichester District Council

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10 December 2024

### Report from the Corporate Plan Task & Finish Group

#### 1. Contacts

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#### 2. Recommendation

**The Committee is requested to note this report from the Corporate Plan Task and Finish Group and confirm that it is satisfied the Council is achieving satisfactory levels of performance against the targets and activities in the 2024/25 Corporate Plan mid-year progress report.**

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Task and Finish Group met on 30 October 2024 to review the council's performance in relation to the Corporate Plan, identifying areas where performance was below expectations, and aiming to reduce risks to an acceptable level. The period under review was 1 April to 30 September 2024.
- 3.2 Members were Cllr S Boulcott and Cllr D Johnson.
- 3.3 Members received a report from the council's performance management system giving progress on key projects and current data for performance indicators (PIs) that support the Corporate Plan 2022-2025.
- 3.4 Divisional Managers and Lead Officers were in attendance to provide further information where required.
- 3.5 The Group did not discuss projects and PIs with green status (those that are on target). Projects and PIs with amber or red status (those that are off target to some degree) were discussed as outlined in Section 4 of this report.
- 3.6 The Corporate Plan is refreshed each year and a new version will come forward to Cabinet and Council in January 2025 for approval.

#### 4. Monitoring and Review

- 4.1 Members discussed the red performance indicators **LPI 010a (Reduction in the Council's Carbon Emissions from 2019 to 2025)** and **LPI 010b (Support the District to Reduce its Carbon Emission from 2019 to 2025)**. Ms Stevens advised that the 10% targets on both were aspirational and our influence over district-wide emissions is minimal. The new Climate Change Action Plan will include actions to focus on our community leadership role.

The increase in the Council's own emissions is mainly due to increases in service provision. An issue with the heat pump at Westgate Leisure Centre also led gas usage to be higher than expected. Previous reductions in emissions were due to COVID restrictions that are no longer in place. Further detail on our progress towards these targets is reported regularly to the Environment Panel.

- 4.2 Members discussed amber project **Corp Plan 052a (Food Waste Recycling for Businesses)**. Mrs Huggett advised this was slightly delayed due to extra time needed to make the best possible assessment of our vehicle requirements. A contract is expected to be awarded in the coming weeks and overall project timelines are on track. The next steps will be designing the service and developing a communications plan.
- 4.3 Members discussed amber performance indicator **LPI 192 (Percentage of Household Waste Sent for Reuse, Recycling and Composting)**. Mrs Huggett advised that the plateauing of the recycling rate was a national trend. It is expected that the introduction of food waste collections will result in a further increase. The Council is also reviewing additional recycling services offered including for textiles, small electrical items and coffee pods to encourage take-up.
- 4.4 Members briefly discussed amber project **Corp Plan 018 (Land at Pitsham Lane)**. Officers advised that, while options were being developed for this site, it remained leased out and was generating income.
- 4.5 Members discussed red performance indicator **LPI 003 (Number of homes improved with Financial Assistance from the Council)**. Ms Standing advised that this is led by customer demand, which has been lower in recent years. Legislation on housing standards has strengthened since our offer was first introduced, which has contributed to this. The new Housing Strategy will consider ways to drive up standards in the owner-occupier and private rented sectors. The Landlord Accreditation scheme will also be reviewed and Officers are considering whether further action to promote our current offer is needed.
- 4.6 Members discussed red performance indicator **LPI 013 (Households in nightly-paid, non-CDC-owned accommodation)**. Ms Standing advised that this remained a national problem and a long-term solution requires action from Government. Locally, moving people on from temporary accommodation can be challenging due to difficulties securing long-term, sustainable tenancies. The new Housing Strategy will aim to address this and a new post has been recruited to help bring forward more private sector properties. The Housing Solutions Team hold fortnightly reviews for clients in temporary accommodation to ensure everything possible is being done, by both the Council and the client to help them move on.
- 4.7 Members briefly discussed cancelled project **Corp Plan 059 (Festive Ice Rink)**. Officers advised that this project did not proceed due to risks surrounding finances, noise and planning.

- 4.8 Members discussed amber project **Corp Plan 038 (Parking Strategy Action Plan)**. Mrs Murphy advised that a delay with replacing lighting in car parks was due to issues with the contractor, but this was still expected to complete by March 2025. The results of a government trial relating to e-bikes and scooters are also awaited, following the trial's further extension to May 2026.
- 4.9 Members discussed amber project **Corp Plan 142a (Southern Gateway Implementation)**. Members were referred to the update provided for the September and October 2024 Cabinet and Council meetings, and the resolutions made on the next steps for this project. Officers advised that the title and description of this project had since been amended in line with this.
- 4.10 Members discussed the amber project **Corp Plan 049 (Oversee Delivery of UKSPF and REPF Funds)**. Mrs Murphy advised that there was one grant agreement outstanding, while discussions continue with the Midhurst Vision Group around the use of CDC land. The project is still expected to complete by March 2025.
- 4.11 Members discussed the amber performance indicator **LPI 005 (Percentage of Individuals Accessing the Wellbeing Service who are from Identified High-Risk Groups)**. Officers advised that the Team had found it difficult to reach young care leavers and people with autism or learning difficulties. Officers are now engaging with organisations who provide services for these groups and are hoping to increase referrals in the later part of the year.
- 4.12 Members briefly discussed the amber project **Corp Plan 036 (Amended Contract Procedure Rules)**. Officers advised this was delayed awaiting the publication of new regulations by the Government.
- 4.13 Overall members considered that there were satisfactory explanations for areas of the Corporate Plan where targets had not been met, and accepted the assurances of Officers where they advised that targets would be met before the required end dates.

## 5. Consultation

- 5.1 There was no requirement for consultation as officers were able to answer all concerns satisfactorily.

## 6. Community impact and corporate risks

- 6.1 The corrective actions being put in place by Officers seek to minimise any negative impact on the community or the Council.

## 7. Other Implications

	Yes	No
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder:</b>		X
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity:</b>		X
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact:</b>		X
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help:</b>		X

<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</b>		X
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>		X
<b>Other (please specify):</b>		X

There is no direct impact as this report does not propose any new areas of work or revisions to existing work. However, it should be noted that the range of projects and performance indicators reviewed by the Group do address many of the different headings included within the table.

**8. Appendices**

8.1 None

**9. Background Papers**

9.1 None