

Overview & Scrutiny Committee 1

21 March 2019

PERFORMANCE MONITORING BRIEFINGS – QUARTER 3 2018/19

Report of the Chairman/Vice-Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Committee 1

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To present a summary from attendance at the Performance Monitoring Briefings.

2.0 Performance Briefings – Quarter 3

2.1 In January 2019 the Vice-Chairman and I attended the three Quarter 3 Performance Monitoring Briefings. The key points raised at these briefings were:

Operations

- Positive performance was noted in terms of reduced rent arrears, increased car park income and pest control income.
- Continue performance issues were noted around void management but members noted the actions planned as a result of the void review and presentation to Scrutiny Committee.
- The overall medium/long term impact of the -1% annual reduction in rents was noted and conformation of the overall impact requested. The anticipated pressures on the Housing Revenue Account during 19/20 and 20/21 were noted, principally due to increased right to buys and the -1% regime which is due to end on 31 March 2020.
- Improved recycling tonnages and reduced residual waste tonnages were welcomed as a direct result of enhanced kerbside collections introduced in September 2017.

Resources

- Concern was expressed about the sickness levels across the Council, and a discussion took place on the options available to the Council to improve the situation.
- A discussion took place on the work of the CA&H team, based on the limited resources in the team to undertake Business Process reviews, but also the positive impact the new website and approach to social media is having.
- It was positive that RDC had managed to secure funding for training on cyber security.
- The Members supported the work that Sian agreed to undertake to understand more fully the slight reduction in collection rate trends.
- The net overspend position on CA&H was noted; which was in line with the report presented to Corporate Board February 2018.

Strategy & Regulatory

- Members discussed whether the Catterick Garrison Master Plan could be re-named or branded to make it clearer how it related to the Local Plan Review.
- Members noted the process against target for housing delivery which indicates that the target number of 180 new dwellings will be achieved in quarter 4.
- The update on the Community Led Housing fund was noted and the potential need for larger applications to be taken through Corporate Board for decision. This followed an application from Askrigg for a grant of £150,000 and the potential for a similar figure to be requested in support of the Arkengarthdale scheme.
- Members requested a quick guide to the various RDC Social and Economic Grants and it was agreed that this would be produced and circulated.
- The impacts of the new Homelessness Reduction Act were discussed and how referrals from partner agencies have increased following the new 'duty to refer' introduced in October 2018.
- Members noted that following the training session delivered by the Business & Community Manager the updated Economic Action Plan was due to be taken to Scrutiny 1 in March 2019.

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