

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE 8 August 2018

ITEM 8

Report of the Acting Chief Executive

Annual Report and Review of Performance 2017/18

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council produces a short Annual Report every year, to be published alongside the Annual Review of Performance against its agreed priorities.
- 1.2 These documents are an important way to build public understanding of the Council's work, its achievements and the challenges that it is addressing. They complement the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement, which are necessarily quite technical in nature, and are published seperately.
- 1.3 The Annual Report and Annual Review of Performance are to be considered by Council Cabinet on 8 August 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To endorse the Annual Report and Annual Review of Performance.
- 2.2 To forward any comments on the Annual Report and Annual Review of Performance to the Council Cabinet for their consideration.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To inform the public and stakeholders about the Council's work in 2017/18.
- 3.2 To recognise the commitment and achievements of staff in 2017/18.
- 3.3 To contribute towards meeting the Council's Best Value duty and Code of Recommended Practice on Local Government Transparency.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Annual Report and Annual Review of Performance ("the Review") set out progress against the Council's previously published priorities, which in this case are contained in the Council Plan 2016-19 (approved by Cabinet on 10 February 2016) and the Delivery Plan for 2017/18 (approved by Cabinet on 21 June 2017).
- 4.2 Although it is not a statutory duty to publish an Annual Report, it is good practice for the Council to report back to the public and other stakeholders on how it is progressing, and to promote some of its achievements, while acknowledging challenges and areas for improvement (and contributing towards the Council's Best Value Duty). Building an understanding of the Council's work will support future public engagement, such as the planned consultation on the Budget for 2018-19 and the forthcoming Council Plan for 2019-23.
- 4.3 The Council does have a duty to publish a summary of its financial information in an accessible manner, and to publish details of the number of complaints it has dealt with, and the Annual Report satisfies these requirements.
- 4.4 Officers across the Council have shown dedication and creativity throughout 2017/18 to improve services to the public, deliver efficiencies and work effectively wth members ad partners. Against a backdrop of challenging resources and increasing demand for many services, it is appropriate to recognise the many achievements in the Annual Report.
- 4.5 It is noted that the Review covers the previous administration's priorities, but it is important for public transparency that we complete the reporting against these. Their inclusion in the Review does not imply that they will remain priorities for the Council, and members should refer to the proposed Council Delivery Plan for 2018/19 for current priorities.
- 4.6 The Review covers the status of objectives and measures as at the end of quarter 4 2017/18 (March 2018). Some things may have moved on since then. To understand the latest performance, reference should be made to the Quarter 1 Performance Report, which will be reported to Cabinet in September.
- 4.7 Year-end reporting is an opportunity to reflect on the previous year and draw lessons to inform future practice, and as such is an important element of good governance.
- 4.8 Subject to approval by Cabinet, the Annual Report and Review will be published on the Council's website on the same page as the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2017/18 (www.derby.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/vision-derby/annual-report).

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are a number of potential options for both the content and the format of the information to be published. The proposed format has been developed with feedback from Chief Officers and Cabinet members.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	
Financial officer	
Human Resources officer	
Service Director(s)	
Other(s)	Policy and Improvement Manager, Head of Performance and Intelligence

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 2 – Annual Report 2017/18
Appendix 3 – Annual Review of Performance 2017/18

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 None directly from this report. The summary of financial data in the draft Annual Report has been prepared by the Corporate Accountancy team and is consistent with the Council's Statement of Accounts 2017/18.

Legal

2.1 The statutory content is noted at paragraph 4.3 of the report. There are no further implications arising.

Personnel

3.1 None directly from this report.

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4.1 None directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

5.1 The proposed Annual Report summarises some of the content from the Statutory Equality Information 2018 and refers readers to that document for more information. By explaining the roles of some of the consultative forums and groups, it may promote more interest in membership, which will assist in delivery of the Council's Equality Objectives.

Health and Safety

6.1 None directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

7.1 None directly from this report.

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None directly from this report.

Risk Management

9.1 None directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 The Annual Report and Annual Review of Performance are important because they report on our progress against the Delivery Plan published at the beginning of the year and approved by Cabinet. They therefore support a culture of transparency and consistency around the Council's priorities.