

Response to Corporate Scrutiny Committee Recommendations/Actions – Appendix 1

*Performance Management Framework considered at the meeting on 22 November 2023*

<u>Committee Date</u>		<u>Recommendation (R) / Action (A)</u>	<u>Notes/Response</u>
22 November 2023			
	A	1. To request that information on the current staff establishment numbers at the Council is provided to the Committee, in addition to the current number of vacant posts.	Work to reconcile the establishment data in the HR system is still underway. Final checks are being undertaken between HR, finance and budget holders and we expect the establishment data to be available from the end of February 2024.
	A	2. To request that information on the consultation return in relation to the establishment of the Office for Local Government is provided to the Committee, in addition to the Government's formal response.	<p>The vision for the Office for Local Government (Oflog) is for it to provide authoritative and accessible data and analysis about the performance of local government, and support its improvement. The foundation of Oflog is publicly available data that can be assessed for comparison – which is useful in the consideration of our Best Value duty. Initially the <a href="#">Local Authority Data Explorer</a> was established with data under four domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Social Care</li> <li>• Waste management</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adult skills</li><li>• Local authority finance</li></ul> <p>The government did not consult on the establishment of Oflog – rather consultation was held on additional metrics to be included in the Data Explorer in October 2023 and the results of the consultation were published in December along with the new metrics. A summary is provided below of the Government response and the metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During the four-week engagement period, Oflog received feedback from nearly half of all local authorities and 10 local government sector organisations. Feedback was received on all proposed metrics and Oflog is grateful to all those who took the time to respond.</li><li>• Oflog is publishing 10 metrics on the Data Explorer now and is considering further the feedback received on the other proposed metrics, with the intention to respond in 2024</li><li>• Oflog intends to expand the number of themes included in</li></ul>
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			<p>the Data Explorer in the future and will again engage as part of those plans. Oflog recognises that data alone is rarely enough to assess a local authority's performance and it often needs context, be it via further investigation, including talking to people who understand the local area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As a result of this engagement, Oflog is today (19 December) publishing 10 further metrics under three themes on the Data Explorer: Planning, Roads and Corporate and Finance.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Planning - Percentage of major planning applications decided on time (district matters)</li><li>2. Planning - Percentage of non-major planning applications decided on time (district matters)</li><li>3. Planning - Percentage of major planning applications overturned on appeal (district matters)</li><li>4. Planning - Percentage of non-major planning</li></ol></li></ul>
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			<p>applications overturned on appeal (district matters)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Planning - Date when a local plan was formally adopted by an authority</li> <li>6. Roads - Percentage of local authority A roads that should be considered for maintenance</li> <li>7. Roads - Percentage of local authority B and C roads that should be considered for maintenance</li> <li>8. Corporate &amp; Finance - Number of upheld Ombudsman complaints per 10,000 population</li> <li>9. Corporate &amp; Finance - Council Tax collection rates</li> <li>10. Corporate &amp; Finance - Non-domestic rates collection rates</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Business and Economic Growth and Fly-tipping, Oflog received feedback that requires further consideration. Oflog will</li> </ul>
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			<p>respond on the final metrics for those themes in 2024.</p> <p><a href="#">Summary of engagement on tranche two metrics for the Local Authority Data Explorer (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p>
	R	<p>3) To request that a review of the contract management process of commissioned providers of Council services, in the context of the proposed 'One Council' outcomes of the new Performance Management Framework, is added to the Committee's Work Programme.</p>	<p>The Commercial Hub are working on a Council wide Contract Management Framework that will provide advice and guidance to colleagues on how to manage contracts. This should enable standardised reporting in the future.</p> <p>In relation to the 'One Council' outcomes and the links to the Performance Management Framework, the new Contract Management Framework will ensure a consistent way of monitoring contracts and deliver the outcome: <i>'services deliver value for money and have effective financial control mechanisms'</i>. Once the work is complete, metrics can be developed to ensure strategic oversight of contracts is delivered across the Council.</p> <p>The Committee's Scrutiny Support Officer is currently liaising with the relevant Officer to schedule an item on contract management in the Committee's</p>

			Work Programme for further information and scrutiny.
	R	4) To recommend that formal consultation is carried out with staff unions as part of the development of the new Performance Management Framework.	The revised PMF is still being developed and will be shared with the TUs for consultation. The response will be considered as part of the final PMF for 2024/25.