

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

2 OCTOBER 2018

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-22 – PROGRESS AT QUARTER ONE 2018/19

JAMES BROMILEY: STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To advise Overview and Scrutiny Board of progress against the 2018-22 Strategic Plan, and the Council's projected year-end financial position, at Quarter One 2018/19.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

That Overview and Scrutiny Board:

2. Notes the Council's Quarter One 2018/19 Results report (Appendix 1) and the actions that Executive has agreed will be taken to address the issues set out within it.
3. Notes the Executive's approval to utilise £392,000 of the Social Care Demand Risk Reserve to cover one-off increased demand in Adult Social Care Services in 2018/19.
4. Notes the Executive's approval of a revised Investment Strategy for the period to 2020/21 (at Appendix 2).
5. Considers issues raised by the report in the ongoing development of the scrutiny work programme, as appropriate.

BACKGROUND AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Background

6. On 12 June 2018, the Executive agreed a revised, streamlined approach for reporting progress against the Strategic Plan and the Council's financial position, the format of which was subsequently agreed by Executive members and Overview and Scrutiny Board at its meeting of 3 July 2018.
7. The first report in this format was considered by the Executive at its meeting of 4 September 2018, and is attached at Appendix 1. The report sets out for Quarter One 2018/19:
 - a progress update against the 2018-22 Strategic Plan
 - revenue and capital budget projections and proposed amendments;
 - position statements in relation to the Council's borrowing and its reserves;
 - an update on the Council's Strategic Risk Register; and

- actions that the Council will take in the next quarter to address performance issues.
8. The report sets out positive performance in many areas, however action is being taken throughout the remainder of the year to address spending pressures, mainly within Children's Social Care.
 9. The Executive also agreed a revised Investment Strategy for the period to 2020/21, which is attached at Appendix 2 for information.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10. Not applicable.

OPTION APPRAISAL / RISK ASSESSMENT

11. Not applicable.

FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS

12. **Financial** – the financial implications of Quarter One monitoring are set out within Appendix A. At Quarter One, the Council projected a break-even position for 31 March 2019. The Council is currently seeing pressures in particular within Children's Social Care, as are other local authorities across the country. The actions the Council intends to put in place throughout the year, when implemented, will fully mitigate these pressures, which if not tackled could result in our spending in 2018/19 being £112,137,000 against the agreed budget of £111,285,000, a potential overspend of £852,000 or 0.77%.
13. **Ward Implications** – while the performance activity described in this report will impact differently across wards, there are no specific ward implications from the actions agreed by the Executive.
14. **Legal Implications** – the actions agreed by the Executive are consistent with and will promote the achievement of the Council's legal duty to achieve Best Value.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. Notes the Council's Quarter One 2018/19 Results report (Appendix 1) and the actions agreed by the Executive that will be taken to address the issues set out within it.
16. Notes the Executive's approval to utilise £392,000 of the Social Care Demand Risk Reserve to cover one-off increased demand in Adult Social Care Services in 2018/19.
17. Notes the Executive's approval of a revised Investment Strategy for the period to 2020/21 (at Appendix 2).
18. Considers issues raised by the report in the ongoing development of the scrutiny work programme, as appropriate.

REASONS

19. To provide an integrated and comprehensive overview of performance within the Council and provide assurance that mitigating actions are in place to address underperformance.

APPENDICES

- 1 Q1 2018/19 Results
- 2 Revised Investment Strategy at Q1 2018/19

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