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CABINET

Tuesday, 14th July, 2020

S U P P L E M E N T A R Y P A C K

1.	VISION 2025: OUR CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019-2020 AND STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2019-2020
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Scrutiny recommendations

(Pages 3 - 10)

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Joint Scrutiny Working Group

Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on: 14.07.2020

The Joint Scrutiny Working Group met on 9 July 2020 and considered the following documents:

- Vision 2025 – Corporate Improvement Plan Annual Performance Report

The Working Group thank the Leader, the Head of Transformation and Communications and officers for attending scrutiny.

Scrutiny make the following observations:

- The report is a great improvement on previous reports and officers were congratulated for that improvement.
- The Working Group noted that following previous year's comments from scrutiny comparative information relating to the previous year's performance had been included in this year's report.
- It was accepted that there was additional improvement action being undertaken by the Council such as the work being undertaken by the Improvement and Assurance Board and the Transformation Board.
- The Working Group's comments / recommendations in relation to the report are set out in the attached **Appendix**.

Scrutiny's Recommendation	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
1That the Cabinet considers and responds to the comments / recommendations as set out in the Appendix;			

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, as soon as possible or at the latest within 2 months of the date of the Cabinet meeting i.e. by 14.09.2020

Membership of the Joint Scrutiny Working Group on 09.07.2020:

County Councillors:

M Dorrance, R Williams, J Charlton, P Roberts, J Pugh, J Gibson-Watt and Mr G Robson.

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Economy, Residents, Communities and Governance Scrutiny Committee
Joint Scrutiny Working Group – 09-07-2020
Vision 2025 - CIP Annual Performance Report

Comment by	Comment	Response
JC	The 7 well being goals are mentioned in the introduction but you have to go to an appendix to find them. Might be useful to have them upfront as they are key to the plan.	Accepted The Goal descriptors have been moved from the Appendix to Page 3.
JC	I think it might be fair to say that COVID-19 did impact on this plan but only for about 3 weeks of the entire year. Is it worth mentioning this?	Accepted The Leader's intro has been amended to say that covid-19 impacted in the last quarter of the year.
JC	I am confused about the number of "new Primary Schools" in Gwentyfed catchment on page 6 which says 5 new schools were opened? Should that be new build not new schools?	Accepted The Statement in the Leader's intro has been amended to reflect this comment.
JC	Local spend on is quoted as £100 million on page 6 and £62 million on page 9 and repeated on another page which I can no longer find.	Partially Accepted The reason for the different figures is that the Leader's intro gives a picture of achievements since the start of the plan in 2018 and the CEO's intro outlines 2019-20 performance only.
JC	Powys LOTO, has any money been distributed?	Accepted A link to the Powys Lotto website has been added to the report, which shows the local causes being supported and their target amounts.
JC	Mental Health Monitoring on P 58 suggests proposals for improvement but they don't appear on the list.	Accepted More information on this visit will be added to the report.

**Economy, Residents, Communities and Governance Scrutiny Committee
Joint Scrutiny Working Group – 09-07-2020
Vision 2025 - CIP Annual Performance Report**

Comment by	Comment	Response
JC	Also think the simple version is really helpful too.	Accepted
JC	Easy read version – format could be improved for reading on screen. Possibly use the same format used by Communications for a recent document where you moved left to right which was simple.	Accepted Will consider if the SWAY document can be changed to a sideward view rather than up/down.
JGW	Tendency is to provide more detail on what we're doing well rather on things we're not doing well – need for a better balance in the report.	Partially Accepted In the past we were not good at stating what we did well. Council needs to say where it is in addressing recommendations of regulators. The negative element is in the Regulators section of the Report.
JGW	Social Care – no mention of services for children with disabilities in the document which is surprising.	Partially Accepted The CIP report covers achievements against the specific objectives in Vision 2025 and therefore doesn't cover performance of disability services. This will be reported in the Director of Social Services' Annual Report.
JGW	Education – The report only shows academic achievements at Post 16 and does not include vocational training or the total number of cohorts.	Partially Accepted There is a need to look at this measure in a more rounded way. What is not shown currently is the difference made. We are starting to look at this as part of our current planning process.

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GR	Page 15 – local suppliers, 526 engaged. Is this contracts made or phone calls. If these are contracts we need to state that.	Accepted The report has been changed to explain that this refers to the engagement of businesses through the 'invitation to tender' process. There is more work to do with businesses. Buyer days have also been held. In relation to contracts work is being undertaken to try to identify the use of local contractors within procurement figures.
GR	Page 28 – states case of lady of 107. In an earlier press release relating to the same person the initials are different – need for consistency.	Accepted Accepted – will be changed.
GR	Page 43 – no savings detail, just spending.	Accepted Report changed to say that there are no headline savings to report.
GR	Page 48 – no of staff who have had appraisals is poor. Why are paid managers not undertaking appraisals	Partially Accepted This is a matter for the Chief Executive.
JC	The Council has had 3 critical reports last year relating to Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Education. We have made huge improvements, should a comment be included in the introduction.	Accepted A short paragraph has been included in the Leader's introduction making reference to the continuation of the council's improvement journey.
RW	Based on the report a reader would not know where Powys is placed in terms of ranking on an all Wales basis. Could benchmarking figures be included.	Partially Accepted This has been challenged for some time. Not all authorities are in the same place as Powys in

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		terms of data available which can be reported. It is only using the Public Accountability measures (PAMs) that comparisons can be made between authorities. PAM's are not being collected by Data Cymru this year due to COVID-19 and reference to this is made in the report.
RW	Vocational education – the Council has assisted 130 people into work. Can this be reflected in the document even if the Council did not directly deliver this service.	Partially Accepted This is around partnership working. The council reports on academic rather than vocational learning and pathways into work.
MD	The Council's ambition is to create quality jobs. There is nothing in the report as to whether these 131 jobs are quality jobs are not. There is also no context about what is meant by a quality job.	Partially Accepted We will review the data to see if it can be broken down by sector/ job type.
PR	Page 29 – WESP being re-established. The previous WESP was not fully implemented.	Rejected The comment refers to performance in previous years, whereas this report is focussed on 2019-20.
PR	Page 31 – table on Looked After Children (LAC) – there is no commentary explaining why performance was not as expected or changes made.	Partially Accepted Actual numbers (rather than just percentages) have been added where appropriate to provide context. More detailed commentary on red items can be seen in the council's quarterly AIA Reporting, whereas the purpose of this report is to provide a strategic picture.

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PR	Page 33 – 21 st Century funding for schools. Much of this looks back over the last 4 years. There is also no comments about the delays for the Welshpool and Machynlleth schools which was outside the Council's control.	Accepted Paragraph in the report has been amended to focus only on 2019-20 performance. The reference to schools deficits will be covered by the Annual Accounts issued in September.
PR	Page 33 – E-Ysgol – this target has not been met. It would be helpful to highlight the number of courses provided through this medium.	Accepted Course numbers will be added to the report.
PR	Page 53 – school funding formula, minor changes. A significant amount of money has been pumped into schools to fund TLAs so this is not a minor change.	Accepted Wording has been changed to reflect the comment.
PR	Estyn inspections of individual schools – could a short summary be included regarding these inspections such as numbers of schools which are at the various grades and changes.	Rejected There is a specific performance measure already in the report which outlines the % of schools inspected who are not in need of follow up. Also, this is a Council report but understand that schools are part of the wider picture of how the council is performing.
JP	Is it possible to have a baseline of where we're starting from so we know how much money is being spent.	Rejected The baseline is included in the original plan. The current report shows performance over 2 years only, otherwise it would be too large a document. The budget shown is what is allocated to services

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		and not how it is spent by those services e.g. distributed to other organisations.
JP	Direct payments – this is shown as a massive improvement. However, some people are not getting the support needed.	Rejected A support service is available for individuals which is successful. However, it is that person's choice whether to use the service or not.
JP	Businesses seeking to work for Powys, the procurement process is not helpful and can be costly for businesses, therefore they do not apply to work for the Council.	Partially Accepted The Council has to adhere to legislation in relation to procurement. However, a review of the Procurement Strategy is to be undertaken in the next year to try to ensure that working with the Council is made as easy as possible. What is difficult in Powys is that there are a large number of SMEs (Small and Medium enterprises) which might not be able to bid for larger contracts. The council is reviewing how it can obtain information about sub-contractors used which are local businesses.
JP	Apprenticeships – is the Council checking if these are delivered in any contracts let by the Council.	Partially Accepted
JP	Now is the best opportunity for the Council to establish a business register and to assist businesses, including where additional jobs are being created and in which sector.	Accepted The Council will do its best to engage with businesses and this information can be included in next year's report.