

Report to: Policy and Performance Advisory Committee

Date: 19 September 2024

Title: Policy and Performance Advisory Committee – Policy Input and Development.

Exemption: None

Report of: Simon Russell, Head of Democratic Services

Ward(s): All

Purpose of the report: This report outlines the responsibilities of the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when choosing to consult on reports from the Forward Plan that are due for consideration by the Cabinet on the 26 September 2024, and provides details of the recommendations to the Cabinet for each report.

Recommendations to the Committee: The recommendations are detailed at 1.3 of this report

Reasons for recommendations to the Committee: To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.

Contact Officer(s): Name: Nick Peeters
Post title: Committee Officer
E-mail: nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Telephone number: 01323 415272

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.
- 1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Cabinet’s Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee’s agendas, allowing the Committee to request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.
- 1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:

- 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or
- 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
- 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.

1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

3 The following Cabinet reports and recommendations are included in the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee agenda for the meeting on the 25 January 2024:

Cabinet report:	Portfolio progress and performance report 2024/25 - Quarter 1
Purpose of the report:	To consider the council's progress and performance in respect of service areas for the First Quarter of the year (April – June 2024) as shown in Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report.
Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:	To note progress and performance for Quarter 1 2024/25
Reasons for the recommendations:	To enable Cabinet members to consider specific aspects of the council's progress and performance.
Lead Officer	Luke Dreeling: Performance Lead email: luke.dreeling@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Cabinet report:	Revenue & Capital Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2024/25
Purpose of the report:	The report provides an assessment of the Council's financial performance against its approved 2024/25 budget, incorporating key financial risks, issues and opportunities for the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
Officer recommendations:	It is recommended that the Cabinet: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Note the forecast outturn position for 2024/25 and associated risks. ii) Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and Performance and the portfolio holder for finance to apply the required budget virements to support effective management of the overall budget. iii) Note Appendix 1 and 2

Reasons for the recommendations: To update members on the financial position of the Council and ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations.

Lead Officer Homira Javadi, Director of Finance and Performance
homira.javadi@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Cabinet report: New Homes Principles (Building Better Council Housing)

Purpose of the report: To implement New Homes Principles underpinning the council's housing delivery programme.

Officer recommendations to the Cabinet: To approve and adopt the New Homes Principles.

Reasons for recommendations: To create a framework that supports in the design and delivery of new council housing.

Lead Officer Nathan Haffenden, Assistant Director – Property and Development
E-mail: Nathan.haffenden@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Cabinet report: Community Wealth Building update

Purpose of the report: To provide an update on the progress of the Community Wealth Building programme

Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:

- (1) To note the progress made in delivering Community Wealth Building
- (2) To note and adopt the Community Wealth Building Strategy set out in appendix A to the Cabinet report.
- (3) To agree to an approach being made to East Sussex Pension Fund seeking agreement to invest more in local projects to retain wealth and create jobs locally.

- Reasons for recommendations:**
- (1) The Council is committed to developing a Community Wealth Building approach as part of the Corporate Plan 2024-28. This report is the annual update on this work to cabinet.**
 - (2) The strategy document would provide a public facing overview of the Council's activities and future plans in relation to community wealth building.**
 - (3) East Sussex Pension Fund could provide a significant contribution to the local economy if it invested more in local projects, which could benefit residents, but also many members of the scheme who may live in the area.**

Lead Officer Peter Jenion, Project Manager – Community Wealth Development
peter.jenion@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Cabinet report: Supporting Authority Approval for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy currently being prepared by the Responsible Authority, East Sussex County Council

Purpose of the report: The report addresses requirements of the Environment Act 2021 relating to the Council's Supporting Authority role in reviewing both the pre-consultation draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and the final pre-publication LNRS. ESCC is the Responsible Authority and will provide the draft and final pre-publication documentation.

Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:

(1) Note and welcome the Council's role as a Supporting Authority in relation to Local Nature Recovery Strategies, under The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023;

(2) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Lead member, to:

- a) Approve and submit a response to the Responsible Authority, ESCC, on any pre-consultation draft of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy within 28 days as required by the Council's role as a Supporting Authority under The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023;**
- b) Consider the pre-publication draft of any Local Nature Recovery Strategy and, if the Chief Executive considers that the draft strategy cannot be justified based on the results of the consultation or that it is materially deficient, to submit a publication advisory notice to the Responsible Authority within 28 days, as set out in regulation 15 of The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023.**

Reasons for recommendations:

The report addresses requirements of the Environment Act 2021 relating to the council's LNRS Supporting Authority role (to East Sussex County Council as the Responsible Authority) and seeks delegated authority to approve and respond on any pre-consultation draft of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy within 28 days, as required, and consider the pre-publication draft strategy, also within 28 days. Delegated authority is sought as these timelines would not allow for the matter to be considered at Cabinet.

Lead Officer

Name: Jane Goodall, Environment Lead
Jane.Goodall@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Name: Nadeem Din, Head of Planning Policy
nadeem.din@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk