

Report to: Policy and Performance Advisory Committee

Date: 31 October 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 7 November 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.

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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: **Climate and Nature Strategy Update 2023/24 and Action Plan**

Purpose of the report: **To provide the new Climate and Nature Strategy and Action Plan for publication**

Officer recommendations to the Cabinet: **Cabinet is recommended to:**

(1) Approve the Climate and Nature Strategy Update 2023/24 and Action Plan for publication on the council's website.

(2) Confirm that the council is committed to 'Pathway 4' and will work to reduce scope 1 & 2 carbon emissions to deliver a net zero council by 2030.

(3) Note the achievements to date and that the strategy and action plan are 'live' documents and are updated and amended on an ongoing basis.

(4) To delegate authority to Ian Fitzpatrick Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration and Councillor Emily O'Brien, Cabinet member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems, to produce and design an executive summary of the update report for publication on the council's website.

Reasons for the recommendations: **To progress the aims of the council's Climate Emergency Declaration (2019) to make the council net zero carbon by 2030 and to assist the same aim to be achieved within the wider district.**

Lead Officer **Kate Richardson, Sustainability Lead**

Cabinet report: **Community Grants Programme**

Purpose of the report: For Cabinet to consider the funding recommendations of the cross-party Grants Working Group

Officer recommendations: To agree the proposed funding allocations set out in Appendix 1, and the additional recommendation at para 2.8 of the Cabinet report.

Reasons for the recommendations: The recommendations outlined in this report enable the Council to support a broad range of causes and continue to deliver improved outcomes for residents during the cost-of-living crisis.

Lead Officer Seanne Sweeney, Community Services Lead