

REPORT UNDER RULE 2(vi) OF THE COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**Report by Councillor Gary Hewson, Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee**

Good evening fellow councillors and officers
Madam Mayor

It gives me great pleasure to present this report on the work done by members and officers regards the matters relating to measuring the performance of the functions of all aspects of the authority. You will note that the work committee has dealt with has been quite substantial though it only relates from February this year which is the time period since the previous report. All members on Committee give the reports in front of them the justice they deserve and take the role of what might be said is of being a critical friend where needed and never short of offering praise where deserved. We realize we can only send comments etc to Executive when needed as a scrutiny committee but I am sure this is listened to as we are all here to get the best possible outcomes for those who elected us.

Committee Activity

The Performance Scrutiny Committee has held five meetings since the last Performance Scrutiny Committee annual report by Councillor Pat Vaughan was presented to Council in February 2022. These reports have included the following areas, some of which are expanded later on in my report:

- Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21, which provided a review of the scrutiny activity undertaken across the council's five scrutiny committees during 2020/21 (February 2022 PSC)
- Quarterly performance update reports to ensure regular monitoring of the Council's operational performance as a key component of the Local Performance Management Framework (February 2022, June 2022, August 2022 PSC)
- Quarterly financial monitoring to provide members with a summary of actual income and expenditure compared to the revised budget and appropriate allocation of any surpluses to reserves (February 2022 PSC)
- Update on the Performance Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2021/22 (February 2022 PSC)
- A quarterly review of the Strategic Risk Register, which identified improvements and new issues (February 2022, June 2022, August 2022 PSC)
- Portfolio Holder under Scrutiny Report – Quality Housing (March 2022 PSC)
- Interim Christmas Market Outturn Report 2021 providing members with the financial outturn of the 2021 Lincoln Christmas Market (March 2022 PSC)
- Annual update report on the Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions that had been collected, secured, and spent in the 12 months to December 2021 (March 2022 PSC)
- Lincoln City Profile 2021 report focusing on the key demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of, and challenges to, the City of Lincoln (March 2022 PSC)
- Performance target setting report for 2022/23 updating members on proposed performance targets for 2022/23 across CX, DCE and DHI (March 2022 PSC)
- Performance Scrutiny work programme for 2022/23 (March 2022 PSC)

- Presentation on Lincoln's GEO-Sense footfall data being used to monitor the recovery of Lincoln City Centre following the pandemic (June 2022 PSC)
- Treasury Management Stewardship and Actual Prudential Indicators Report 2021/22 (Outturn) as required under the Local Government Act 2003 (June 2022 PSC)
- Financial performance outturn report 2021/22 (June 2022 PSC)
- Performance Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2022/23 (June 2022 PSC)
- Portfolio Holder under Scrutiny Report – Our People and Resources (June 2022 PSC)
- Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee / Local Plan Annual Report 2021/22 detailing progress made by the committee during the previous year (August 2022 PSC)
- Update on Performance Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2022/23 (August 2022 PSC)
- Income and Arrears Monitoring report, providing updates to members on the position with regard to amounts of monies owed to the council as of 1st April 2022 (August 2021 PSC).
- Council Tax Rebate (Energy) update report (August 2022 PSC)

Since the last report, Performance Scrutiny Committee received minutes from one sub-committee and one sub-group:

- Budget Review Group Minutes (February 2022)
- Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee Minutes (August 2021, November 2021, January 2022, March 2022)

Annual Portfolio Holder Reports

The council's strategic plan, Vision 2025, which was formally approved at Council in March 2020, underwent a mid-term review in January 2025. This review was slightly earlier than originally planned and was as a result of the impacts of the pandemic changing the immediate needs of our residents and our city.

Performance Scrutiny Committee has received the following reports from Portfolio Holders in respect of progress towards our strategic priorities following Councillor Pat Vaughan's report to Council in February 2022 –

- Portfolio Holder for Quality Housing – Councillor Donald Nannestad – Report presented to Performance Scrutiny Committee in March 2022
- Portfolio Holder for Our People and Resources – Councillor Ric Metcalfe – Report presented to Performance Scrutiny Committee in June 2022

Financial and Performance Reports

Following a year where reporting schedules had been heavily impacted by the pandemic, Performance Scrutiny Committee has been able to scrutinise all financial and performance reports, including quarterly financial monitoring, quarterly performance monitoring, Treasury Management & Prudential Indicators, and Income & Arrears monitoring reports, as planned during 2022.

Target Setting for 2022/23

The council currently has 87 performance measures in place. Of these measures 67 are targeted measures and a further 20 are volumetric measures. Collectively these measures are an important aspect of understanding how well our services are operating and help to determine whether a service is delivering value for money.

As a reminder targeted performance measures are those where the team can influence the performance outturn. Volumetric measures are those that a service team cannot influence the outturn but are still valuable for contextual information relating to other measures provided.

Both the high and low targets for all targeted performance measures are reviewed annually to reflect changes in the marketplace, the council's strategic direction, as well as current outturn achievements.

During the target setting process it is essential that all performance measures have targets which are specific, stretching but achievable, relevant, and timely.

The target setting process for the 2022/23 targets commenced in November 2021. The outcome of the review was presented to Performance Scrutiny Committee members via the annual performance target setting report in March 2022 in advance of being presented to Executive for final approval also in March 2022.

Budget Review

The role of Performance Scrutiny Committee is to scrutinise in detail the robustness of the proposed budget options and Council Tax for 2022/23 as well as the Medium-Term Financial Strategy for 2022-2027. This was undertaken in a committee format by the Budget Review Group, which is a cross party sub-group of Performance Scrutiny Committee. The group met on 2nd February 2022. Councillor Pat Vaughan was the chair for this meeting of the group.

Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee

The Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee looks in more detail at matters relating to housing and our housing stock.

Since Councillor Pat Vaughan presented his annual Performance Scrutiny Committee update report to Council in February 2022, the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee has considered matters relating to -

- The current position of Tenancy Sustainment (March 2022)
- Portfolio Holder under Scrutiny Report – Quality Housing - Councillor D Nannestad (March 2022)
- Revised Tenant Involvement Strategy 2022-2025 as required in the regulatory framework for social housing and the social housing white paper (March 2022)
- Housing and Investment Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2021/22 (March 2022)
- Housing and Investment performance measure target setting 2022/23 report (March 2022)

- Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee work programme update - Looking Forward to 2022/23 (March 2022)
- Housing finance outturn position for 2021/22 (June 2022)
- Housing and Investment Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 4 2021/22 (June 2022)
- Scheduled Repairs Pilot update (June 2022)
- Asset Management Strategy Workshops (June 2022)
- Review of the constitution for the Lincoln Tenant's Panel (June 2022)
- Update on the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee work programme 2022/23 (June 2022)
- Update on Housing Allocations between April and June 2022 (August 2022)
- Update on the current position with anti-social behaviour in housing properties (August 2022)
- Housing and Investment Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2022/23 (August 2022)
- Update on the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee work programme 2022/23 (August 2022)

I would like to thank Councillors, Lincoln Tenant Panel members, the Portfolio Holder for Quality Housing, and officers for their contribution to the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Looking Forward

I believe we all realise that the Council has not been immune to outside events which are out of our control such as inflation and price rises since our MTFS was set for this year and for future years. This necessitated the proposed first quarter 2022/3 Financial Report to committee to be delayed until our September meeting to look at all these pressures which are affecting those we represent and likewise the Council. It might be an issue that the leader of the Council as reported on this evening in his report of course committee's role is to measure how the Council is Performing if we need to reconsider our aims and targets moving forward that will still be our role.

Councillor Gary Hewson
Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee