



Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting information

Date and time of meeting: Tuesday, 30 July 2024 at 6.00 pm

Venue: Hollingworth (Room 108ABC), First Floor, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU

Agenda items

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Urgent Items of Business

To determine whether there are any additional items of business which, by reason of special circumstances, the Chair decides should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary, personal or personal and prejudicial interests they may have and the nature of those interests relating to items on this agenda and/or indicate if S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

4. Items for Exclusion of Public and Press

To determine any items on the agenda, if any, where the public are to be excluded from the meeting.

5. Minutes (Pages 3 - 7)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2024.

6. Greater Manchester Combined Authority Scrutiny Minutes

To note the minutes of the meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) scrutiny meetings:

6a. GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 20th March 2024 (Pages 8 - 26)

6b. Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel - 14th May 2024 (Pages 27 - 34)

7. Public Health & Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25: Quarter 1 Performance Update (Pages 35 - 44)

To consider the Public Health and Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25 Quarter One Performance Update.

8. Economy & Place Directorate Plan 2024-25: Quarter 1 Performance Update (Pages 45 - 85)

To consider the Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024-25 Quarter One Performance Update.

9. Draft Work Programme 2024/25 (Pages 86 - 90)

To consider the draft work programme 2024/25.

10. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider that the press and public be excluded from the remaining part of the meeting pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A Paragraph Three to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

11. Rochdale Town Hall: First Quarter Overview After Re-Opening (Pages 91 - 115)

To consider a report of the Director of Economy and Place / Cabinet Member for Communities and Cooperation.

Committee Members

Councillors Besford (Chair), Bromfield, Brown, Ellahi, Nisa, Place, Rana, Taylor, West, D. Williams and P. Williams.

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Agenda Item 5

COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday, 21 May 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Brown (in the Chair), Ellahi, Nisa, Place, Rana, T. Smith, West, D. Williams and P. Williams

OFFICERS: Kuiama Thompson (Director of Public Health and Communities), Paul Moore (Assistant Director Economy), Donna Bowler (Assistant Director Place), Richard Duddell (Senior Project Officer – Rochdale Development Agency), Fabiola Fuschi (Senior Governance and Committees Officer)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Amanda Newton (Chief Executive, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing) and Kevin Brady (Chair of the Rochdale Boroughwide Housing Board)

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Besford, Bromfield and Taylor.

Councillor T. Smith attended the meeting as substitute for Councillor Bromfield.

In the absence of both Councillors Besford and Taylor, respectively Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee for municipal year 2024/25, the Committee appointed Councillor Brown to chair this evening's meeting.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 **URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

4 **ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no items for exclusion of press and public.

5 **MINUTES**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2024 be approved as a correct record.

6 **GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINES AUTHORITY SCRUTINY MINUTES**

7 **GMCA OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 21ST FEBRUARY 2024**

Resolved that the minutes of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 21st February be noted.

8 GM POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL MINUTES OF 30TH JANUARY AND OF 21ST MARCH 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the GM Police Fire and Crime Panel held meetings on 30th January and on 21st March 2024 be noted.

9 GMCA JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 17TH JANUARY 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the GMCA Joint Health Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 17th January 2024 be noted.

10 TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Resolved that the terms of reference of the Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

11 ROCHDALE BOROUGHWIDE HOUSING: RECOVERY PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE

The Committee considered a progress report of the Chief Executive of Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RBH).

The Chief Executive of RBH and the Chair of the RBH Board were in attendance and informed the Committee on the organisation's recovery plan following the Coroner's report into the death of Awaab Ishak and the subsequent downgrade to a non-compliant regulatory status by the Regulator of Social Housing in December 2022.

The RBH representatives outlined the progress against the Recovery Plan and Voluntary Undertaking that had been agreed with the Regulator of Social Housing to ensure that RBH returned to regulatory compliance and delivered safe homes for its customers.

The Recovery Plan was underpinned by a deep cultural change that the organisation had undertaken, under its new leadership, during the last 12 months. The Recovery Plan consisted of 13 actions relating to five different themes: Governance, Home, Tenant Involvement and Empowerment, Rebuilding Trust and Confidence and Lesson Learnt.

The RBH representatives provided details of progress against each of the five themes. In particular, they referred to the changes to the rules that govern RBH to ensure the setting of the corporate strategy and accountability for performance of the organisation sits with the Board. Additionally, the recruitment of ten non – executive directors, including the Chair, to ensure the Board is skills based to meet the challenges the organisation faces. RBH representatives also referred to the strategic approach to damp and mould and additional investment to deal with prevention activities.

RBH representatives informed of the structures that had been established to enable customers' engagement to inform RBH services and formally including customers as members of the Customer Services Committee, a sub-committee of the Board.

Members thanked the RBH representatives for the update and acknowledged progress to date against the Recovery Plan also noting that RBH had significantly improved communication and engagement with Ward Councillors and tenants. However, Members expressed their disappointment at the lack of elected members' representation on the RBH Board. RBH representatives informed the Committee of the ongoing conversations at local, regional and national level to find ways to engage with elected representatives; they reiterated that, as part of the RBH's improvement journey, the board's membership required strong social housing background and skill sets. Elected members were invited to apply for the two existing board's vacancies.

The Committee brought to the attention of RBH representatives some additional matters such as anti-social behaviour and land maintenance, update on College Bank, opportunity for community groups to access funding streams for community projects, tenants being requested to pay rent deposit in advance in order to access social housing and benefits being paid in arrears, putting tenants in a difficult financial position and neighbourhoods housing officers' turnover. RBH representatives gave assurance that plans and actions were in place to address these matters and that the completion of the Recovery Plan was conditional to the ability of RBH to tackle some of these issues.

Resolved:

1. That the progress report be noted;
2. That it be noted that RBH Representatives may be required to attend future meetings of this Committee to further report on progress against the organisation's recovery plan.

12 ECONOMY DIRECTORATE PLAN 2023-24: QUARTER 4

The Committee considered 2023/24 quarter four performance report for the Economy Directorate.

The Assistant Director (Economy) and the Senior Project Officer – Rochdale Development Agency were in attendance and addressed the Committee's questions about empty commercial properties across the Borough, Heywood Town Centre Masterplan Projects, Middleton Town Centre Masterplan Project, Tonge Hall and other projects within the Townships.

It was noted that, following some changes to the Council's leadership structure in January 2024, Neighbourhoods services had been split between the Economy Directorate, the Corporate Services Directorate and the Public Health Directorate. Hence, directorate plans' performance reporting arrangements for 2024/25 would reflect this change and this Committee would oversee service performance of the newly established Economy and Place Directorate and some aspects of the Public Health and Communities Directorate.

Resolved that the information be noted.

13 NEIGHBOURHOODS DIRECTORATE PLAN 2023-24: QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The Committee considered 2023/24 quarter four performance report for the Economy Directorate.

The Assistant Director (Place) was in attendance to present the information and to answer the questions of the Committee.

It was noted that, following some changes to the Council's leadership structure in January 2024, Neighbourhoods services had been split between the Economy Directorate, the Corporate Services Directorate and the Public Health Directorate. Hence, directorate plans' performance reporting arrangements for 2024/25 would reflect this change and this Committee would oversee service performance of the newly established Economy and Place Directorate and some aspects of the Public Health and Communities Directorate.

Members queried progress against the establishment of a Community Wealth governance framework and the review impact and further opportunities for Artificial Intelligence.

Resolved that the information be noted.

14 PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE PLAN 2024-25

The Committee considered the Public Health and Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25.

The Director of Public Health and Communities was in attendance to present the information and to answer the questions of the Committee.

In reviewing the plan, the Committee discussed with the Senior Officer some topics of relevance for scrutiny and policy development which would be included in the Committee's work programme 2024/25:

- Inequalities Framework - the co-producing of the Inequality Framework for Rochdale to support the suitability assessment tool, plus Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) - deliver year 3 changing futures programme to support multiple disadvantaged groups;
- the Neighbourhoods plan – neighbourhood partnership and how to develop links with the five townships (Formalise the structures, by which the Developing Neighbourhood Partnership model, can support Townships, in delivering against the Council Plan Priorities).

Resolved that the information be noted and the topics discussed be considered for inclusion in the Committee's work programme for 2024/25.

15 ECONOMY AND PLACE DIRECTORATE PLAN 2024-25

The Committee considered the Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024-25.

The Assistant Director (Economy) and the Assistant Director (Place) were in attendance to present the information and to answer the questions of the Committee.

In reviewing the plan, the Committee discussed with the Senior Officers some topics of relevance for scrutiny and policy development which would be included in the Committee's work programme 2024/25:

- Progress against Action 4 – Create Vibrant Town Centres
- Progress against Action 6 - Take positive action in response to the Housing Emergency
- Progress against Action 1 – Sub-action reducing digital inequalities.

Resolved that the information be noted and the topics discussed be considered for inclusion in the Committee's work programme for 2024/25.

16 WORK PROGRAMME PLANNING 2024/25

The Committee considered the topics listed in the draft work programme 2024/25 and the areas of work highlighted by Senior Officers during the presentation of the Directorate Plans 2024/25 at this evening's meeting.

Members also considered poverty as a theme of relevance for this Committee, with the view to ensure that all Council's services and their partners worked effectively together to mitigate the impact of the cost of living crisis.

Resolved that a draft work programme 2024/25 be compiled following this meeting. The work programme would be further discussed at the next meeting of the Committee in July 2024.

Agenda Item 6a

Minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee

held on Wednesday 20 March 2024

at the Tootal Buildings, Broadhurst House, 1st floor,

56 Oxford Street, Manchester, M1 6EU

Present:

Councillor Nadim Muslim	Bolton Council (Chair)
Councillor Jill Axford	Trafford Council
Councillor Russell Bernstein	Bury Council
Councillor Tom Besford	Rochdale Council
Councillor Joshua Brooks	Salford Council
Councillor Basil Curley	Manchester City Council
Councillor Patricia Dale	Rochdale Council
Councillor Shaun Ennis	Trafford Council
Councillor Nathan Evans	Trafford Council
Councillor Jenny Harrison	Oldham Council
Councillor Helen Hibbert	Stockport Council
Councillor John Leech	Manchester City Council
Councillor Joanne Marshall	Wigan Council
Councillor Colin McLaren	Oldham Council
Councillor Imran Rizvi	Bury Council
Councillor Naila Shariff	Tameside Council
Councillor Mandie Shilton Godwin	Manchester City Council
Councillor Debra Wailes	Wigan Council
Councillor Fred Walker	Wigan Council
Councillor Peter Wright	Bolton Council

Officers in attendance:

Eamonn Boylan	GMCA
Nicola Ward	GMCA
Helen Davies	GMCA
Gill Duckworth	GMCA
Steve Wilson	GMCA

Steve Fyfe	GMCA
Anne Lythgoe	GMCA
Liz Windsor Welsh	Action Together- Oldham Rochdale and Tameside
Warren Escadale	Voluntary Sector North-West (VSNW)
John Hannen	Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation (GMCVO)

O&SC 90/23 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Russell Bernstein (Bury Council) and Councillor Peter Wright (Bolton Council).

O&SC 91/23 Chair’s Announcements and Urgent Business

The Chair welcomed the three external officers from the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector: Liz Windsor-Welsh, Warren Escadale and John Hannen and noted that there were two Elected Members joining the meeting via Microsoft Teams: Councillor Nazia Rehman to present the retained business rates update on behalf of Councillor David Molyneux, GM Portfolio Lead for Resources and Investment, and Councillor Lewis Nelson to present the findings and recommendations of the Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group.

O&SC 92/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received in relation to any item on the agenda.

O&SC 93/23 Minutes of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 21 February 2024

The Committee noted that within the minutes on page 8, point 6 it read:

- *The Committee raised the point that a Section 21 notice (of the Housing Act 1988) meant landlords could begin the process of taking possession of a property let on an assured shorthold tenancy without providing any reason. This meant families could be homeless within 2-months. The Committee asked for consideration to the Charter to ask landlords not to use a Section 21 notice,*

instead using a Section 8 notice instead (where a landlord must first serve notice of intention to bring proceedings on the tenant). Officers advised that whilst that could be added it was non-enforceable and would need a change of law to remove the notice altogether.

The Committee requested the officer advice be amended to read:

- *The Committee raised the point that a Section 21 notice (of the Housing Act 1988) meant landlords could begin the process of taking possession of a property let on an assured shorthold tenancy without providing any reason. This meant families could be homeless within 2-months. The Committee asked for consideration to the Charter to ask landlords not to use a Section 21 notice, instead using a Section 8 notice instead (where a landlord must first serve notice of intention to bring proceedings on the tenant). **Officers advised that whilst that could be added it would be a non-enforceable clause but that it was possible for a Landlord to avoid the use of a Section 21 notice.***

Resolved/-

That subject to the inclusion above, the minutes of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 21 February 2024 be approved as a correct and accurate record.

**O&SC 94/23 GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Task and Finish Review
Affordable Living: An investigation into how the affordable
homes offer could better meet the needs of people in Greater
Manchester.**

The Chair invited the Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Review into Affordable Living, Councillor Lewis Nelson, to introduce the report to the Committee. Councillor Nelson began by thanking the Elected Members for their time and commitment to driving the review, the Local Authority officers delivering on this agenda, and the GMCA research officers, the wealth of information, insight and knowledge was invaluable in guiding the key recommendations in the final report.

The Committee was advised about some of the key lines of enquiry the Task and Finish Members had considered and the current housing situation both nationally and across Greater Manchester, this included:

- The lack of affordable housing was a national crisis because of national policy e.g. Right to Buy but the delivery of affordable housing was the responsibility of all.
- Over 68k households were on the waiting list for social housing.
- There was an over reliance on the private rented sector where there were no agreed standards.
- The housing needs across GM were different and flexible provision was needed to address changing times and an ageing population. A standardised approach was needed to housing allocation policies.
- Other contributing factors to the lack of affordable housing being built included the cost of construction, the lack of investment, land supply and the skills to build homes for the future that are zero carbon.
- The review had been renamed 'affordable living' in recognition that housing costs were one element of the cost of living that GM residents were experiencing, worse than other areas in the UK (accordingly to O&S data).
- The basic care and support needs of tenants were increasing significantly with 50-70% of Housing Association tenants requiring additional support, mental health, drug and alcohol etc. Without these wider issues being considered, the risk of homelessness increased even further, the need to prepare for the cohort widening was evidenced if the causes could not be addressed quickly enough. Additionally, it encouraged organisations to look at supporting people out of debt at every point of contact, recognising that beginning a tenancy in deficit is the worst place to start.
- This review encouraged the sector to grasp the opportunities brought about through the latest GM devolution trailblazer to be brave, creative and innovative. Unlocking sites through visionary strategic plans and the use of the GM Brownfield Land fund, like Castlefield in Rochdale who have brought housing to a site that was never even considered previously.

- The review recommended a Housing Strategy that is ambitious, setting the standard for new build properties at zero carbon and utilising well established partnerships to deliver collaboratively.

The Chair thanked Councillor Nelson for chairing the Task and Finish work and acknowledged the amount of work undertaken.

The Committee was given the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification where needed. There was discussion that included:

- Agreement that the Right to Buy scheme has impacted on the number of Affordable Homes available especially when there was a failure over a significant period to reinvest funds into new-build Affordable Homes, this was directly at odds with the policy of using half of the Affordable Homes Programme (AHP) money on homes to buy rather than to rent. More rental homes were needed as a priority.

Steve Fyfe noted that national policy had mandated Homes England to develop affordable home ownership products using Affordable Homes Programme funding. Homes England needed to hit a target to delivery nationally against the AHP to balance rental products with home ownership products. There had been a recent shift to more social rent than affordable rent, this was available across the whole of Greater Manchester. The 50/50 split still remained in terms of home ownership products alongside rental products. After 26 April, through the Devolution Trailblazer Deal, GM would have more influence to direct the priorities for Homes England in supporting Affordable Housing delivery against GM priorities. The report by the Task and Finish group alongside reports and strategies all helped to shape the direction of GM priorities for Affordable Housing. Steve noted that there was a cost and viability for social housing providers to build homes that would balance out the development costs on new developments.

- Clarity was sought on how the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill would impact the amount of Affordable Housing money on-site to avoid the Section 106 contributions being spent elsewhere. There was an opinion that the report had omitted the ability developers had to interpret viability assessments in favour of

the development thereby losing any opportunity for the Local Authority to obtain Section 106 funding. Significant sums of money could be used for public realm work in the development area, only impacting on those living there and adding to the value of the property rather than insisting that the funding be redirected to affordable homes.

Steve Fyfe advised the Committee that the Section 106 funding had a levy-based approach that could potentially remove decision-making for schemes, moving more towards a funding pot. This approach had less clarity on the relationship between the planning gain from a particular development and the broader outcomes it would achieve. Steve advised the Committee he would speak to Planning Officers to determine any further developments on how Section 106 was likely to work in practice.

- Clarity was sought as to the added benefit of recommendation six within the report (Levers of Places for Everyone should ensure that social and affordable rented homes are included in every new development). The example was given of Timperley Wedge, a housing development in the Trafford Ward where 45% of the homes within the scheme would be affordable. Homes needed to be 20% less than the average market rate to be classed as affordable, and in this instance the adjacent ward of Hale Barns saw a market rate of £1million, making affordable homes £800k. However some Members within the Committee noted that whilst there were affluent areas of GM, there were areas of deprivation and this report did not seek to ensure affordable housing would infiltrate to all areas, rather that if all districts could ensure some affordable housing within it, it would move the balance in a positive direction.

Councillor Nelson acknowledged the issues that had arisen following the Right to Buy scheme, leaving a shortage of delivery of all housing types for affordable. He noted that definitions needed to be fit-for-purpose with a cap on what an affordable home could be and what could be called an affordable home, noting that an £800k affordable home demonstrated the divorce that had taken place between an affordable home and the definition of one.

- Clarity was sought on how the £150million package for Brownfield Land would be used to clean up ex-industrial sites and making Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) zones safe.

Steve Fyfe noted the Brownfield Land Programme had been presented to the Committee during the last meeting, should there be any further questions, Alex Maynard Delivery Director, GMCA would be able to answer those. The Brownfields Land Programme was now fully allocated with Year 2 and Year 3 programme agreed with further programming within it.

- Clarity was sought on the next steps following approval of the report, specifically how do the recommendations become implemented and how do they tie in with individual Local Authorities to ensure momentum was continued into action for more affordable and social homes.

Councillor Nelson acknowledged affordable housing a large area for policy and to ensure focus and not all views or current work could be captured; the existing strategies were not reviewed, rather the scope was to capture this moment in time for future policy making. Consideration had been given to the previous Task and Finish work on a similar subject to review the progress made since then. The importance of the role of Members, Local Authority Cabinet Members and GM Portfolio Holders in taking forward the recommendations.

- The Committee acknowledged the fact that there were more people renting in the private sector than the social rented sector with the Right to Buy scheme clearly stating this was the single biggest contributor for that. An example was given in Rochdale where a large former council estate was now managed by a Housing Association. Many people used the Right-to-Buy scheme to purchase their home, however many of those homes have now fallen into private landlord ownership, not the families who originally bought them. This has led to a situation with semi-detached homes where the Housing Association charge a subsidised rate for one side, and the private landlord charges far more on the other side. Further information on the Right-to-Buy scheme was requested.

Steve Fyfe advised the Committee that the discounts of the Right to Buy scheme have changed over the decades. Tenancies of houses between 3-5 years would see 35% discounts and 50% on flats, with a cap in England of £96k on Right to Buy. There have been recent changes in the Budget to see a relaxation of the guidance in 2022-23 and 2023-24- councils were keeping 100% of the receipts for reinvestment but this going to end at the end of 2023/24. National reports had estimated between £180-2million gone back into

LA budgets. Work had been ongoing to replace affordable housing through Right to Buy losses however there were still between 98-100k fewer properties in social housing than there would have been without the Right to Buy scheme.

- Councillor McLaren noted that he had been a member of the Task and Finish Group and suggested that the report included a lot of information that should be considered by the GMCA Leadership to establish the aspects GM needed to focus on and prioritise in the next 12 months. A suggestion was made to add an additional Recommendation 11 to the report that it should be considered by the ten Overview and Scrutiny Committees across the districts for them to invite their Cabinet Members for Housing to discuss the report at their meetings and feedback suggestions to GMCA to understand thinking across the districts and have the potential to include this work within their work programmes for 24/25. The Committee agreed with this suggestion as a way to work in partnership with the districts and enable more meaningful conversations and depth of solutions.
- The Committee noted a couple of areas where further information would have been helpful. First the issue of overcrowding in homes, this was an issue that was highlighted during the Pandemic and many lives were lost due to the number of people living together and how quickly the virus spread in those environments. The Committee suggested Affordable Housing needed to include larger homes for people with families and the identification for development of bigger housing for families should have been included in the report. Secondly, it was noted there was no mention specifically of young people and affordable housing for young people 18-30. The Committee also noted there was no detail on the wait time for the 68k people on the social housing waiting list.
- The Committee acknowledged that in respect of the 68k on the social housing waiting list, the numbers of housing completions were relatively small and utilising the current housing stock would not make an impact as fast as new-build properties would. It was noted that there was one mention of GMCA funding within the report and clarity was sought on the ambition to invest the Housing Investment Fund.

Steve Fyfe advised that the Housing Investment Fund was restrictive, it can fund affordable housing, only as part of a wider development and is there to accelerate housing delivery and private sector led projects. The Housing Investment Fund enables schemes through Planning Policy but was not there to invest solely in affordable housing. From the perspective of Housing Associations, they would more likely be able to borrow finance more cheaply from other sources. Eamonn Boylan added that the Housing Investment Fund was underwritten by Local Authorities and needed to be repaid to the government at the end of the loan period, it was there to provide loan investment and could not provide grant, but the key to affordability was grant funding. Developers would not build affordable homes if the finance needed to be repaid, they would require subsidy to make them genuinely affordable. The Housing Investment Fund was never intended to be operated as a grant fund.

- Councillor Fred Walker noted a typo within the report that his Local Authority was Wigan Council and not Bolton Council.
- The Committee noted that in areas such as Wigan, the industry had been traditionally coals mines and mining and the land had been so over-developed it had little value. The Brownfield Land fund had added value by enabling the land to be regenerated for housing.
- The Committee noted the importance of housing as a base for the health and wellbeing of residents, without the fundamental of a home, all other aspects of life such as education and health were negatively impacted, but by concentrating on following up on some of the reports key recommendations there was the opportunity to make a difference across GM.
- Councillor Nelson noted that the Task and Finish Members were of the opinion that the current housing stock was not enough and it would take resources and national government to enable an acceleration of house building. There was a challenge back to Members to consider thinking differently about housing provision across GM.
- Councillor Jill Axford noted the benefits that being part of Task and Finish group brought and the significant learning experience; she recommended any Member to take part to understand how the exploration of issue was approached.

- There was some discussion about Net-Zero and the principle being mandated within housing schemes. Also mentioned was the desire to move away from Right to Buy schemes and the potential trend for families to live together and the number of financial, environmental and health and wellbeing benefits that would bring.
- The Committee raised the point of remediation of Brownfields sites, this was a point of contention for the public when sites had been left abandoned. There was acknowledgement that there were different levels of contamination, some were not able to be built on, the Committee noted that developers should be expected to contribute to remediation and requested further information on the position for GMCA. There was an agreement to get an answer to the Committee after the meeting.
- The Committee raised the subject of changing circumstances and needs of individuals as they get older. There was a shortage of adaptable homes and smaller homes for those in a position to down-size that were still within a relative footprint of where they had lived and familiar for residents but releasing larger homes for families. The Committee noted that whilst on the journey to net-zero, the cost of energy is a real pressure for families and the Committee should not overlook the expensive costs in retrofitting a home.

Councillor Nelson thanked the Committee for the consideration given to the report and to those who contributed to it.

Resolved /-

1. That the findings of the Task and Finish Draft Review on Affordable Housing including the recommendations be received, noted; and
2. That the draft review be approved for consideration by the GMCA.
3. That the Local Authority for Councillor Fred Walker be updated within the report to read Wigan Council not Bolton Council.
4. That the suggested Recommendation 11 be added to the report and that the Affordable Housing Task and Finish final report be recommended to the ten district Local Authorities for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Portfolio Holders for Housing.

5. That any outstanding questions raised during the discussion on the item be answered directly with the Committee after the meeting.
6. That Steve Fyfe speak to Planning Officers to determine any further developments on Section 106 funding and any updates be provided to the Committee.

O&SC 95/23 Implementation of Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord and Fair Funding Protocol

Anne Lythgoe, the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Sector Lead, GMCA attended the meeting (with three external colleagues Warren Escadale, the Chair of the GM VCSE Leadership Group, Liz Windsor Welsh, Chief Executive at Action Together and John Hannen Chief Executive at Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation) to present the report of Councillor Arooj Shah, GM Portfolio Lead for Equalities and Communities.

The Committee was advised that the Fair Funding Protocol was a principles-based agreement (built on the learning acquired from the Compact and approved by the Combined Authority (CA) in October 2023) that sat within the GM VCSE (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) Accord. The Accord was signed in 2021 by Councillor Arooj Shah and Anne Lythgoe.

The Protocol would be used to guide how the CA planned grant funding and represented a shared ambition within the confines of funding conditions set externally from the CA and only applied to GMCA spend on new contracts.

There were several benefits to the Fair Funding Protocol that included:

- the support of improved partnership working and co-creation of services
- the improved ability of the VCFSE sector to provide publicly funded services within communities and the resilience of those services.

Where funding conditions allowed offering:

- an annual uplift in contract or grant payments in line with inflation which enabled VCFSE organisations to continue to pay staff the Real Living Wage as a minimum.
- a minimum 3-year term for grant funded agreements, not passing on budget cuts disproportionately to the VCFSE sector, providing more regular upfront grant payments, carrying forward grant underspend between financial years

without lengthy applications, and ensuring a 3-month notice period for all major changes to contracts and grant funding agreements.

Areas for further joint development included:

- Reserving some contracts for the VCFSE Sector or Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) organisations.
- Considering VCFSE benchmarks.
- Exploring 'Priceless Procurement' where prices were set and evaluation was on the quality of delivery.
- Improving access to procurement.
- Building capacity; and
- Facilitating collaboration.

The Fair Funding Protocol was a GMCA agreement at a Greater Manchester level, Local Authorities had their own arrangements and different ways of working (that were unaffected by the Protocol).

There were 17k people within the VCFSE sector, it was a large system of assets, people, passion. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, racism, injustice, health, health creation etc. Stability was needed to contribute to partnership ways of working and supporting the sector with stability and finance etc. There was potential that the VCFSE sector could build capacity to engage and lead the way where needed, however it was a fragile system currently with delayed decision-making, risk aversion, no notice to forward-plan and the need for funding to work efficiently and effectively. Finance was needed to plan-ahead e.g. redundancy payments cost money through robust HR process and the demand on reserves was high. 74% sector aimed to pay the Real Living Wage.

The priority was to build an inclusive economy in GM. To support networking around equality and marginalised communities with a good management of risk.

The Committee was asked to consider three questions:

- 1) How might we create a culture where the strength of working relationships mean that the principles of 'Fair Funding' are fully embedded across all the work of the Combined Authority?

- 2) Should, and if yes how, might individual Local Authorities take forward a Fair Funding Protocol in their own areas?
- 3) What risks might be associated with implementing a Fair Funding Protocol, and how will we know that it is being successful?

The Committee was given the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarity on the presentation, there was some discussion that included:

- The Committee acknowledged both the huge impacts filling the gaps and contribution the work of the VFCSE sector made within communities and the legacy of underfunding and static budgets that were not aligned to similar work within the public sector and also the positive benefits the Fair Funding Protocol would enable, specifically the Real Living Wage and the 3-month notice period.
- It was noted in some Local Authorities there had been cuts to the VFCSE sector, the impact of this was long-standing organisations were lost, newer organisations did not have the same level of infrastructure and had been at a disadvantage when applying for funding.
- The Committee noted the benefits that the Fair Funding Protocol would bring to the organisations within the VFCSE sector, the Committee asked that consideration be given to procurement specifically noting those contracts that would fall within the protocol and those that wouldn't and ensuring there was a simplified way of applying for funding, but a clear identification between a project under the Fair Funding Protocol and those that were more commercial. Further consideration was suggested for the GMCA to ensure that the additional funding it would require would be fully calculating noting that often VFCSE organisations delivered above and beyond the scope of their contracts and gave far more back than they were currently paid to deliver.
- There was a query about voluntary organisation receiving extra funding to cover overheads and pay staff and that work needed to be done to calculate costs of implementing the protocol. Liz Windsor Welsh noted that the procurement aspect was something that would be explored in the future as part of the Commissioning Investment Framework, (that was available online and would be circulated to the Committee after the meeting). A main priority for the

VFCSE sector was to find more ways to democratise decision-making including who and where money was given to and how it was spent, ensuring decisions were made with effective decision-makers to maximise resources. Through logging social value it would enable partners to work together effectively.

- John Hannen noted the value of markets was not the only way to generate work with the sector as they were not always free or fair. The pandemic highlighted the value from organisations with institutional memories. When VFCSE organisations all apply for the same funding streams, this wastes both time and resources and highlights the need for flexibility.
 - Warren Escadale noted the need for a deeper understanding of the organisations within the VFCSE to move away from the traditional model of dependency on local authorities or charitable funding organisations and they can gain independence.
- 4) The Committee noted in answer to the second question posed by the officers (Should, and if yes how, might individual Local Authorities take forward a Fair Funding Protocol in their own areas?) it was noted the Fair Funding Protocol should help and support those organisations that might traditionally be disadvantaged with the current funding offer e.g. Local Hubs that were initiated through the Pandemic but not every community had access to one and there was an opportunity for GMCA to fill the gap and to implement the Protocol for this benefit.
- Clarity was sought on if the protocol would address volunteer shortfall. John Hannen noted the national trend relating to volunteers was a decline over the last 15-years. The pandemic saw a spike of new volunteers however it was recognised that those with caring responsibilities were predominantly driving care work, this was something the protocol would not address. Liz Windsor Welsh acknowledged the important role of volunteers, and contribution to economic prosperity and that it had to be inclusive. Currently there were barriers for those with additional needs, the Protocol would not address that but the spirit of the organisation should and most organisations had a volunteering strategy.
 - Clarity was sought on if there were review points for longer-term funding, for example to review at three years of a five year grant agreement, given that after

1-year this did not allow enough time for planning or recruitment. Liz Windsor Welsh advised that long contractual frameworks would be the highest standard to work towards as over a 7-10-year period, inflation was considerable year-on-year. These frameworks required good communication and flexibility built into contracts, and identifying how long-term investments were secured was a priority of the VCFSE sector to build fabric of communities and build accordingly. Steve Wilson added that multi-year and long-term investment for the VCFSE was a benefit of the Single Settlement for Greater Manchester and by reviewing the whole funding picture, GMCA could work with the ten Local Authorities in partnership to align incentives.

- The Committee acknowledged that every Councillor was involved with the VCFSE sector and understood it was fundamental to communities to provide essential services, Officers were thanked for a realistic approach to the Protocol.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Implementation of Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord and Fair Funding Protocol update be received and noted.

O&SC 96/23 Retained Business Rates Update

Cllr Nadia Rehman attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams and gave an update to the Committee on behalf of Councillor David Molyneux, GM Portfolio Lead for Resources and Investment.

The Update included:

- The 100% Retained Business Rates Pilot;
- Advising the Committee on the latest position of the current position for the GM funded Business Rates Schemes;
- The latest forecast for 2023/24 and 2024/25 income and the proposed 2024/25 schemes funded from the expected income in this financial year;

- Highlighting the future of the Retained Business Rates in line with the 10-year scheme secured as part of the GM Trailblazer Devolution Deal starting in 2024/25; and
- The proposed Investment and Growth Enhanced Business Rate Zones, the GM partial reset and the future interaction between the Retained Business Rate Scheme and the Trailblazer Devolution Deal within the Single Supplement.

The Committee noted that the 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot was part of the Greater Manchester Devolution deal that was introduced in 2017/18, the intention behind the pilot was to:

- 1) incentivise GM Local Authorities to grow local tax bases for long term financial reward;
- 2) to maintain a predictable income stream to facilitate long term investment decisions; and
- 3) to ensure that GM Local Authorities continue to provide local services and the decisions are made by locally elected representatives who are accountable to local taxpayers.

The initial percentage share between GM Local Authorities and GMCA was 50% however in 2020-2021 100% of the pilot was retained by the districts to support the response to the Pandemic and in 2022/23 the percentage share was agreed to be 75% -25% in favour of GM Local Authorities.

2023/24 was the final year of the current GM 100% Retained Business Rates Pilot, the new scheme would begin in April 2024 and give a higher level of certainty for future income levels to enable GM to take the most strategic approach on investment decisions. The future scheme would align with the decisions that related to the GM single settlement through the trailblazer devolution deal.

There were Enhanced Business Rate areas that would operate for 25-years without any need of reset although they would be subject to a new base line assessment; but still operate alongside the 10-year retention scheme. These areas were

geographically drawn and included two Greater Manchester Growth Zones and three Greater Manchester Investment Zones.

The Committee noted that the Partial Reset applied to any Business Rates growth that had been generated by the investment made by the GM Local Authorities and would be disregarded wholly or partially for any reassessments that will in turn benefit the GM Local Authorities.

Steve Wilson noted three parts to the paper:

- 1) Background;
- 2) The decision before the CA to allocate the funding that we expect to be generated this year in 2024/25; and
- 3) Context to the future that includes the five Investment and Growth Enhanced Business Rate Zones.

The Committee was given an opportunity to ask questions and seek clarity on the paper, there was some discussion that included:

- The potential for changes to the way business rates and charges to businesses were calculated given the impacts to businesses with a physical presence on the High Street when the same charges did not apply to on-line businesses with fulfilment depots situated along motorway corridors. Steve Wilson noted that there were two areas of uncertainty within Business Rates (especially for GM Local Authorities who controlled more percentage of the funds and so an increase in risk):
 - 1) the reset whereby the growth through the pilot will be redistributed across the country, the transparency around this was unknown as this had not been done before and how the reset would affect this was unknown. The reset was originally planned 3-years ago and will not now happen until 2025/26 and would affect GM funds in 2026/27.
 - 2) The future of business rates in its entirety would look like given the changing nature of the economy. GMCA would need to be clear in lobbying that for the GM Local Authorities there was core funding and

spending power from Business Rates and any changes would need to protect spending powers.

In terms of the reset, GM was able to keep any funding generated by GM investment (including Districts, GMCA and TfGM) and this was originally covered within the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) but not quantified, that figure had been fixed at £23million (50% of the value expected in 2-years time). This was the most flexible funding pot and akin to the Single Settlement.

Councillor Rehman added that the Business Rates reset was promised seven-years ago however there was no indication it would happen before 2025/26 but a Business Rates review was needed imminently.

Eamonn Boylan noted that GMCA had taken all necessary steps to increase security in respect of the Retained Business Rates moving forward, but on the basis that Business Rates be abolished or reformed this would have to be based on a no-detriment to Local Authorities and that there had been no movement on the partial reset by Treasury officials as yet.

- The Committee noted the breakdown within the report of what the GMCA Growth Retention was spent on, clarity was sought on how this was better for the city region than allowing District Local Authorities to retain 100% of the funds and the question was asked if there was a case to allow District Local Authorities to retain more growth in the future.

Steve Wilson noted that the original point of the deal was only secured because of the existence of the GMCA. The wording of the new deal specifically required a proportion of the money to be spent at a city-region level. Previously, the 50% approach was subject to lengthy debate and assessment by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) with overall uncertainty despite agreement that there were several investments that were within the spirit of the scheme and the right thing for Greater Manchester to maintain a level of investment in Greater Manchester schemes. The 10-year deal had secured GM investment and demonstrated that some investments worked better at a GM level and supported the overall GM strategy.

The last two- years have seen the definitive 75%-25% split that enabled certainty on all sides to provide District Local Authorities more funding than was originally expected under the 50-50 deal and enabled GMCA the ability to focus the investment from the 25% on areas that genuinely added value.

During the Pandemic, GMCA enabled 100% of the funding to remain with the District Local Authorities because it was the right thing to do and invested two-years in arrears. GMCA now invest one-year in arrears and the 25%-75% deal has enabled this. Steve Wilson noted that on Friday Members of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) would be voting on the proposed 2024/25 Greater Manchester use of the 2023/24 Business Rates income.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the report and recommendations be commended to the GMCA for consideration at its meeting on the 23 February 2024.

Just before closing the meeting, the Chair reflected on some of the key achievements by the Committee during the municipal year, these included the trailblazer deal, the Bus Franchising Tranche 2 as part of the Bee Network and pre-policy scrutiny of some key strategies for GM including Violence Reduction and Race Equality.

The Chair thanked all Committee Members for their engagement and participation throughout the municipal year.

Agenda Item 6b

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2024 IN THE BOARDROOM, GMCA OFFICES

PRESENT:

Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council (Chair)
Councillor Amy Cowen	Bolton Council
Councillor Richard Gold	Bury Council
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Oldham Council
Councillor Barbara Bentham	Salford Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford Council
Councillor Rosemary Barratt	Stockport Council
Councillor Frankie Singleton	Stockport Council
Councillor Vimal Choksi	Tameside Council
Councillor Rose Thompson	Trafford Council
Councillor Yvonne Klieve	Wigan Council

Also in attendance:

Andy Burnham	Mayor of Greater Manchester
Kate Green	Mayor's Nomination for Deputy Mayor

Officers Present:

Ian Cosh	Chief Finance Officer, GMP
CFO Dave Russel	GMFRS
DCFO Ben Norman	GMFRS
Samantha Stabler	Interim Advisor to Panel & Head of Community Safety, Manchester City Council
Damian Dallimore	Assistant Director of Police, Crime, Fire & Criminal Justice, GMCA
Melinda Edwards	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Lee Teasdale	Senior Governance & Scrutiny Officer, GMCA

PFCP/19/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Rabiya Jiva (Bolton), Councillor Tom Morrison (Stockport) (Substituted by Councillor Frankie Singleton), Councillor Dane Anderton (Wigan) (Substituted by Councillor Yvonne Klieve), Independent Members Majid Hussain & Angela Lawrence and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead Sandra Stewart.

PFCP/20/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

PFCP/21/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21st MARCH 2024

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

The Chair then invited Mayor Andy Burnham to provide the latest update on the preparation of Dame Vera Baird's report into the treatment of women in custody. A date had now been set for the publication of the report of 10th June, and the complainants & stakeholders have all been informed accordingly.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2024 be agreed as a true and correct record.
2. That Mayor Burnham's update on the forthcoming publication of the Baird Report be received and noted.

PFCP/22/24 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor Andy Burnham, introduced a report notifying Panel Members of the procedure to be followed in the appointment of a Deputy Mayor and the candidate's qualifications in respect of the role. Points highlighted included:

- The Mayor reflected on his pride in how Greater Manchester was currently growing faster than the UK economy and with a growing population, but noted that the

growth came with extra challenges that placed further pressures upon both the police and fire services.

- The Mayor stated his equal pride that both Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service (GMFRS) were both now in a position where they were outperforming counterpart organisations throughout the country.
- However, it was agreed that both services were still on a continuing path of improvement and that the current Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer remained best placed to lead on those improvements, and with that, it was vital that the Deputy Mayor for Policing & Crime be someone who has the right to qualities to both support and challenge them in these roles.
- Given the single settlement and the newfound ability for a further aligned group approach, and the likelihood of changes in government at the end of the year – Greater Manchester found itself at the cusp of the biggest changes and opportunities yet seen – and the region needed to be ready to match the challenges that would come with these.
- Taking the aforementioned contextual picture into account – the Mayor felt there was no better person to continue to lead on Policing, Fire and Crime than his nomination for Deputy Mayor – Kate Green.
- Kate had throughout her career, provided a distinguished service to the country in a number of capacities. Having worked with the voluntary sector before entering parliament, with important work on addressing child poverty, before then using her position as the Member of Parliament for Stretford & Urmston to push the importance of public service reform in ensuring the best possible outcomes and opportunities for residents of our communities.
- The Mayor and Kate remained fully aligned on their ambition to ensure that the police force was strong and proactive in its approach, yet always fully accountable in terms of scrutiny.

The Chair thanked the Mayor for his introduction and then invited the Mayor's nominee Kate Green to make a presentation to the Panel – points highlighted included:

- The past 18 months in the role of Deputy Mayor had been an important period in which to have taken on the role and included a number of key successes.
- Successes were highlighted such as supporting the significant improvements seen in leadership, culture and performance at GMP & GMFRS; the continued tackling of

misconduct issues in both GMP & GMFRS; the launch of the new victims service and of the 10 year Greater than Violence Strategy; the publication of part three of the independent review into non-recent CSE; oversight of the Baird Inquiry into the treatment of women & girls in GMP custody; refreshes of both the Ethics Committee & the Hate Crime Action Plan; and the successful Fire Cover Review which had driven enough efficiencies to enable additional investment into protection & preventative work and the provision of a 51st additional fire pump into the city centre.

- Future priorities if appointed back into the role would include the continued delivery of what mattered most to residents of GM through the Police & Crime and Fire plans; committing to further work on building public trust and improving the culture within the fire & police services; tackling inequalities and disproportionality within the justice system; and improving outcomes for young people, particularly those at risk of harm.

Comments and Questions

The Chair then invited members of the Panel to comment on the proposal and ask questions of the Mayor and Kate Green.

- Members expressed concern about the effectiveness of the probation service and asked for further detail about work taking place with the service. Kate advised that as Deputy Mayor she had been working closely with Chris Edwards the Regional Probation Director and felt that he continued to provide exceptional leadership to the probation service, and they were seen as an integral part of the GM crime prevention family. The probation service had been significantly impacted by the Transforming Rehabilitation Programme of the mid 2010's, and the bringing back together of the service had been welcomed. But in that time many experienced probation staff had been lost, whilst numbers were now going up again there was still a real issue of experience. The ability to co-commission services in GM remained a very powerful exclusive tool.
- Members asked about collaborative work that had taken place with other PCC's throughout the country. It was advised that through the Association of Police & Crime Commissioners, Kate had been the Co-Lead for the Serious & Organised Crime Portfolio and that the Association made efforts to ensure that it spoke with a

single voice and what not used as a 'political football'. Collective work had also been taking place on addressing issues such as the rises in shoplifting by organised gangs and ensuring cultural improvements within police forces throughout the country.

- Members asked whether it was felt that GM advertised the improvements seen in the fire and particularly the police service enough – were there ways to better communicate these improvements? It was felt that the level of awareness was improving, but it was agreed this had not embedded everywhere. A careful balance needed to be maintained so that the public were also aware that this was not 'the end of the journey'. It was felt that many of the operations in the next phase in terms of tackling crime hotspots through Operation Vulcan and increased presence on the transport networks would make this good work more visible in the day-to-day life of residents.
- Members asked about how best the nominee would ensure that voice of victims remained heard. It was stated that it was vital that victims were provided the support they wanted, at the time they wanted, and for as long as they wanted. The Co-located Victims Service now taking place with GMP was just one element of the key work that had taken place on this over the past year, which also including online support, restorative justice, and regular surveys on the victim's experience – which had provided a huge amount of quality feedback. The Police & Crime Team sought to be regularly updated by elected members on whether their residents felt that their own experiences had been satisfactory.
- Members asked for further detail on the proposals to increase public trust in the police service. It was stated that the best way to do this was to ensure that the public experience of the police service met their needs. That their call was answered expediently, that arrives at their doorstep, and that pursues every possible line of enquiry in addressing their issues. But it was also important to acknowledge that public trust was also impacted by the wider picture of the lived experience – did people feel safe when on public transport? were children safe attending local parks? Elements such as clean streets, access to good healthcare, housing and jobs all played a part in public perceptions and it was therefore vital that partners worked to these goals across the system.

- Members noted that a key concern of residents was a lack of visible presence of police officers or PCSO's. How would it be ensured that the visibility increased given that there have been reductions in PCSOs? It was advised that it was not possible in the current climate to have police officers 'on every corner' but there was a concentrated focus on ensuring that there was a strong presence around hotspots – with the Operation Venture team already working with places where young people were at the most risk of becoming engaged in violent crime. This had already been very successful in reducing the number of weapons on the streets, and in engaging directly with these young people. The Mayor stated that the coalition cuts of the past 14 years had a continued impact on police presence, with it taking many years to repair the damage done. The Mayor sought to ensure that recruitment became stronger from within GM's own communities and that the proposed Manchester Baccalaureate could play a part in this through the development of a Blue Light Pathway in which the Panel would be asked to help in developing.
- Members asked how a zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour (ASB) was possible when the police force was frustrated by magistrates not taking significant action around ASB and the continued blight this brought to many communities. With an increasing concern highlighted on the usage of off-road bikes. It was advised that GMP had just received some funding from government to directly address ASB – this would be utilised through the Neighbourhood Policing Model. It was agreed that the off-road biking issue was a continuing blight on communities and the team were working closely with DCC Woods on bringing in the right capacity and capability to deal with this type of behaviour. There were two strands running currently - a tactical operation and high-level disruptive enforcement within communities.

The Chair drew the item to a close, asking that the Panel vote on the proposed Mayoral nominee. Following a vote by show of hands – the Panel voted unanimously in favour of supporting the Mayor's proposal that Kate Green return to the role of Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Panel notes the process outlined for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime.

2. That following consideration of the Mayor's proposed appointment of Kate Green to the role, the Panel recommends that the Mayor proceeds with the appointment.

PFCP/23/24 GMFRS ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2024-25

Deputy Chief Fire Officer Ben Norman presented the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) 2024-25, detailing the improvement programme activities for the next year. The plan also incorporated the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), the production of which was a statutory requirement under the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework. Points highlighted included:

- This was the fourth and final delivery plan within the current wider four-year plan. With the 2025-2029 now being worked on.
- An ambitious suite of improvement programmes that aligned with the Mayor's strategic priorities was included within the Plan.
- Panel member feedback had been incorporated through the Police, Crime & Fire Steering Group.
- Work had taken place with the public, external partners and colleagues within the GMFRS to help in shaping a plan that was both ambitious and deliverable.
- The plan detailed how GMFRS was working towards an 'outstanding' rating from HMICFRS upon their return visits.

Comments and Questions

- Discussion took place between members and officers regarding the vital need to ensure that all residential properties, be they high, medium, or low risk met a minimum criterion for fire safety.
- Members sought information on how the public with comments about the Plan were responded to. It was advised that they were responded to individually, and that the comments they raised would then be used to inform the Plan going forwards. The quantity received and the themes raised could be shared with Members either outside the meeting or through the Steering Group.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report and update be noted.

Agenda Item 7



Report title: Public Health & Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25: Quarter 1 Performance Update

Report to: Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 30th July 2024

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.

Report of: Director of Public Health & Communities

Public or private: Public

Key Decision: Non-key

Published on the Forward Plan: Not applicable

1. Report summary

- 1.1 To report progress at the end of Quarter 1 (1st April – 30th June 2024) towards achievement of the targets contained in the Public Health & Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to review the information contained within the report and the appendices.

3. Reason for recommendation

- 3.1 In accordance with the Council's performance management framework, progress toward targets contained within Directorate Plans are to be reported to relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committees at the end of each quarter.
- 3.2 The Quarter 1 progress reports for the Public Health & Communities Directorate are attached at Appendix 1 and 2 respectively. Actions within each appendix have been colour coded in accordance with the following criteria:
- 3.3 **Red:** Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date
Amber: Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date due to circumstances outside of the directorate's control
Green: Action completed by the target date
Purple: Action is not yet due for completion but is currently on track

The appendix includes a commentary against actions that are showing red, amber or purple.

4. Alternatives considered

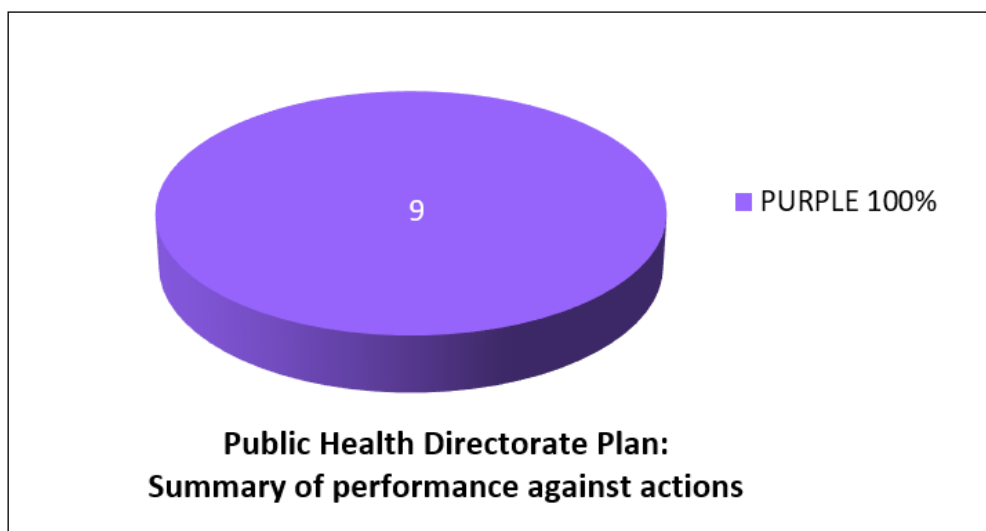
4.1 Not applicable

5. Key information

5.1 Public Health & Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25 Progress

Performance Overview

5.2 100% (11) actions are ongoing. The chart below shows the overall performance of the Directorate in meeting its plan targets at the end of Quarter 1.



Quarter 1 Summary

5.3 The action for work around gambling is ongoing. Arts Council funding has been awarded for creative installation & engagements focusing on gambling harm, currently being developed. Community engagement & awareness raising messages have been confirmed for Rochdale from 5th-19th October 2024. A gambling harms neighbourhood deep dive is being planned with Living Well with GMCA to confirm the research method in Q2. Discussions with GM colleagues are ongoing in regards to refreshing the gambling licensing policy; currently reviewing Statement of Principles and liaising with partners prior to updating the policy and consultation.

- 5.4 Poverty work continues. A Cost of Living Toolkit is being revised by the VCFSE-led Anti-Poverty Network in the second half of 2024 as a piece of co-produced work; the network has had one meeting so far. Conversations have started to develop regarding an equality impact assessment tool that could help staff have conversations with residents about poverty – this links with a wider piece of work to revise the council’s Sustainable Development Goals Assessment (to include the socio-economic duty amongst other changes) and increase its use across the council.
- 5.5 The development and implementation of a work programme to strengthen and embed a consistent community safety offer is ongoing. A work programme is still to be finalised however some implementation has begun already. The community safety service structure has been changed in consultation with trade unions and leadership. The service now has five Community Safety Officers aligned to the five township areas. Work is currently ongoing to align our community safety offer with Township Officers, wider services as well as the Neighbourhood Policing Model to improve partnership response.
- 5.6 The action regarding developing and embedding a customer service strategy is 50% complete. The approach to develop the strategy has been presented to the Director of Public Health & Communities, and the Assistant Director of Public Protection & Customers. The approach included all stakeholders who will be involved in the development of the strategy. This will be presented to Leadership for feedback and sign off, after which stakeholders will be engaged.

6. Finance

- 6.1 There are no finance issues associated with this report

7. Legal

- 7.1 There are no legal issues associated with this report

8. Human resource

- 8.1 There are no human resource issues associated with this report

9. Sustainability impact

- 9.1 There are no sustainability impact issues associated with this report








10. Other considerations (corporate priorities, risks)







10.1 None







Background Papers:








Appendix 1 – Public Health & Communities Directorate Plan 2024-25 Q1





Contact: Ben Jorgensen, Data Innovation & Intelligence Manager –
ben.jorgensen@rochdale.gov.uk


Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
PH2401 Gambling		31 March 2025		16%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2401.A	Provide training for frontline professionals to help them identify the signs of gambling and offer support to residents.	31 December 2024		25%
<p>Training for professionals, offered by 'Chapter 1' during 24-25 to all GM localities has so far been delivered to 20 people from a number of key organisations within Rochdale, including Living Well, High Level, Mind and NHS colleagues.</p>				
PH2401.B	Work with frontline services to ensure they consider gambling harm and data is collected as part of the assessment process.	31 March 2025		10%
<p>Screening Question Pilot with Rochdale Citizens Advice Debt Team-Participation & behaviour to identify levels of harm. GMCA collating data & feedback from all GM boroughs. Screening tool to be selected and shared.</p>				
PH2401.C	Undertake engagement & insight work in communities where gambling harms are higher to understand key issues in the borough and the support required.	31 March 2025		10%
<p>As Council funding has been awarded for creative installation & engagements focusing on gambling harm, currently being developed. Community engagement & awareness raising messages confirmed for Rochdale from 5th-19th October 2024. A gambling harms neighbourhood deep dive is being planned with Living Well. GMCA to confirm the research method in Q2.</p>				
PH2401.D	Refresh the Gambling Licensing policy	31 March 2025		20%
<p>Discussions with GM colleagues ongoing, currently reviewing Statement of Principles and liaising with partners prior to updating the policy and consultation. Governance timeline drawn up.</p>				
PH2402 Poverty		31 March 2025		23%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2402.A	Co-produce a set of system wide poverty resilience tools, including a refresh of the cost-of-living toolkit, to support people in crisis	31 March 2025		20%

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
<p>The Cost of Living Toolkit is being revised by the VCFSE-led Anti-Poverty Network in the second half of 2024 as a piece of co-produced work – the network has had one meeting so far. Conversations have started to develop an equality impact assessment tool that could help staff have conversations with residents about poverty – this links with a wider piece of work to revise the council’s Sustainable Development Goals Assessment (to include the socio-economic duty amongst other changes) and increase its use across the council.</p>				
PH2402.B	Work towards being a food secure borough by developing a sustainable food plan plus a planned approach to ‘move on’ from our network of food banks and food clubs.	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Following Rochdale's achievement of Sustainable Food Places membership, an action plan has been developed to drive work to around 6 key issues. One outcome of this is a two-year campaign and action plan for a programme to increase bean consumption in the borough. “Boro full of Beans” aims to tackle poverty, food waste, and climate and ill- health. The borough’s Big Pan project, which works to teach residents how to “cook on a budget” is still growing in numbers. Household Fund allocations have been provided to the borough’s network of food clubs, food banks and social eating projects.</p>				
PH2403 Inequalities Framework		31 March 2025		25%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2403.A	Co-produce an inequalities framework for Rochdale.	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Phase 1 actions (co-produce research, development and scoping of tools) is on track, with 1 of the tools in initial draft state. Phase 1 due for completion at end of September 2024.</p>				
PH2403.B	Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) - deliver year 3 changing futures programme.	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Tasks all on track. This includes: - VCFSE governance capacity building programme. - CF delivery plan. - CF co-production plan. - Supporting development of MEAM network - Embedding MEAM in Adult Care Prevention programmes.</p>				
PH2404 Prevention		31 December 2024		25%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2404.A	Deliver GM Live Well programme, and CCIN policy lab to develop and test approaches that support a culture of prevention.	31 December 2024		25%

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
Phase 1 due for completion at end of Q2. This includes: - Recruitment and support of VCSFE System Change lead role - Co-ordinate, resource and support for Powershift Learning Cohort - Prepare evaluation and impact gathering - Initiate CCIN (Co-operative Council Innovation Network) policy lab - Complete and publish chapter - Agree plan for Y2				
PH2404.B	Create a staff development toolkit, including web-based training and resources, to support the delivery of the prevention strategy	31 March 2025		25%
The Prevention e-learning module has been published. Prevention leadership training element has been through procurement and is now at design stage.				
PH2405 Community Safety		31 March 2025		22%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2405.A	Develop and implement a work programme to strengthen and embed a consistent Township / neighbourhood-based community safety offer	31 March 2025		25%
Work programme still to be finalised however some implementation has begun already. Community safety service structure has been changed in consultation with trade unions and leadership. The service now has 5 Community Safety Officers aligned to the 5 township areas. Work currently ongoing to align our community safety offer with Township Officers, wider services as well as the Neighbourhood Policing Model to improve partnership response.				
PH2405.B	Establish a performance, intelligence and quality assurance framework for the Community Safety and Resilience Service.	31 March 2025		20%
New Intelligence Analyst post has been developed and recruited to – new staff member due to start Sept 2024. New Strategic Development Manager post also established, recruited to and now in post. Post holder currently reviewing available datasets and developing a performance framework.				
PH2406 Neighbourhoods		31 March 2025		23%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2406.A	Formalise the structures, by which the Developing Neighbourhood Partnership model, can support Townships, in delivering against the Council Plan Priorities	31 March 2025		30%
Review of the governance around the neighbourhood structures is underway to ensure that the Neighbourhood Partnerships align with townships and feed in to wider locality priorities				

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
PH2406.B	Refresh the libraries strategy, to include a review of opening times and equitable access, and plans to address potential barriers	31 March 2025		15%
Work is underway to refresh the strategy to ensure it meets the current aims and objectives. Aim to be completed by end of Q4.				
PH2407 Climate Change		31 March 2025		20%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2407.A	Develop a work programme around climate and health, including how to communicate key messages	31 March 2025		20%
A member of the Public Health team has attended 'deep democracy' training, with a view to attend more engagement sessions throughout the year and develop a public health engagement process.				
PH2407.B	Participate in the GM Clean Air Management Group. Review Licensing Policy to align with the development of the GM Plan.	31 March 2025		15%
Attended Clean Air Management Group meetings, awaiting response from Government to inform next steps and policy review.				
PH2407.C	Develop an indoor and outdoor air pollution work programme to target particulates	31 March 2025		25%
A programme of work has been developed and is being actioned.				
PH2408 Regulatory Services		31 March 2025		33%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2408.A	Trading Standards, in partnership with the DVLA and GMP to develop an initiative which identifies and regulates ghost plates (digits made invisible to cameras).	31 March 2025		50%
4 x 2 hour road side operations have been conducted with the police and DVLA across the borough in Q1.				

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
<p>64 illegal plates were found on vehicles, with 28 of those being actual 'ghost' plates, including one found on a taxi (registered to Wolverhampton, not Rochdale).</p> <p>These plates were made of material that defeats ANPR cameras, including speeding cameras and traffic enforcement cameras.</p> <p>7 suppliers of 'ghost' plates have been identified in the Rochdale area and follow up visits have resulted in over £80k of illegal materials seized in Rochdale alone.</p> <p>We have briefed National Trading Standards (NTS) on the issue and, as a result, they have now allocated two intelligence analysts to compile a national picture.</p>				
PH2408.B	Develop a programme of initiatives with independent outlets to remove non-compliant toys and children's clothing from the market.	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Shops were targeted in Q1. Advisory letters were sent to retailers and then follow up visits were conducted. 110 toys were seized during the visits and 18 samples were sent off for testing.</p> <p>Clothing will be tested as part of counterfeit clothing seizures or when seasonal costumes, such as Halloween, become available.</p>				
PH2408.C	Develop food sampling programme to complement the food regulatory work	31 March 2025		25%
<p>The sampling programme includes a monthly review to sample foods from problem premises & participate in some UKHSA surveys.</p> <p>35 food samples submitted for micro analysis during Q1.</p> <p>We also have secured FSA funding for 25 samples of imported foods to include dried fruit/coconut as part of the 'Imported Food LA/PHA Sampling Programme 2024-25'.</p> <p>The sampling programme will be included in the food and feed plan 2024/25 which will go to formal Cabinet for approval.</p>				
PH2410 Customer Service Strategy		31 March 2025		50%
Ref	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
PH2410.A	Develop a Customer Services Strategy to ensure an efficient and equitable customer services model	31 March 2025		20%
<p>The approach to develop the strategy has been presented to the Director of Public Health & Communities, and the Assistant Director of Public Protection & Customers. The approach included all stakeholders who will be involved in the development of the strategy. This will be presented to Leadership for feedback and sign off, after which stakeholders will be engaged.</p>				

Action Plan	Due Date	Status	% Complete
<p>PH2410.B Embed the neighbourhood- based advice model, to provide a more joined-up solution to delivering face-to-face advice in neighbourhood community hubs</p> <p>A new model of welfare advice has been developed with Citizens Advice in the role of system lead. KYP, Deeplish and Wardleworth Community Centres have been commissioned to deliver multi-lingual community advice and the council's Customer Service Team is delivering low-level support. Work is happening to link up their offer and maximise impact and opportunities. This model is being supported by a newly developed Welfare Advice Forum which is working to foster more</p> <p>Co-ordination between welfare advice organisations in the borough – including a shared action plan and shared directory of services. The Face-to-face offer has been expanded into Family Hubs, schools and other community venues.</p> <p>We are offering better working solutions so work is not being replicated which involved working in family hubs and bases in the community.</p>	31 December 2024		80%

Agenda Item 8



Report title: Economy & Place Directorate Plan 2024-25: Quarter 1

Performance Update

Report to: Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 30th July 2024

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.

Report of: Director of Economy

Public or private: Public

Key Decision: Non-key

Published on the Forward Plan: Not applicable

1. Report summary

- 1.1 To report progress at the end of Quarter 1 (1st April – 30th June 2024) towards achievement of the targets contained in the Economy & Place Directorate Plan 2024-25.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to review the information contained within the report and the appendices.

3. Reason for recommendation

- 3.1 In accordance with the Council's performance management framework, progress toward targets contained within Directorate Plans are to be reported to relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committees at the end of each quarter.
- 3.2 The Quarter 1 progress reports for the Economy & Place Directorate are attached at Appendix 1 and 2 respectively. Actions within each appendix have been colour coded in accordance with the following criteria:
 - 3.3 **Red:** Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date
 - Amber:** Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date due to circumstances outside of the directorate's control
 - Green:** Action completed by the target date
 - Purple:** Action is not yet due for completion but is currently on track

The appendix includes a commentary against actions that are showing red, amber or purple.

4. Alternatives considered

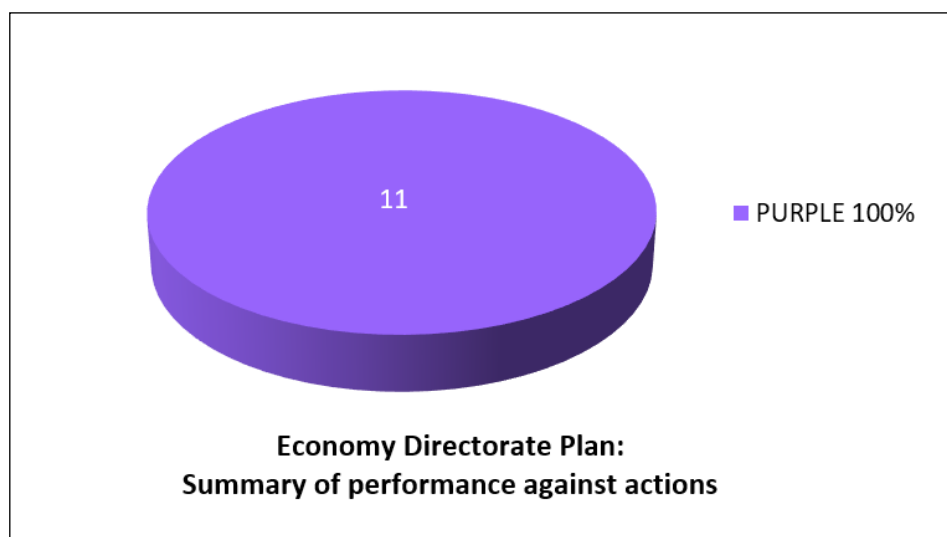
4.1 Not applicable

5. Key information

5.1 Economy & Place Directorate Plan 2024-25 Progress

Performance Overview

5.2 100% (11) actions are ongoing. The chart below shows the overall performance of the Directorate in meeting its plan targets at the end of Quarter 1.



Quarter 1 Summary

5.3 **EP2401 Consult, engage and involve all our communities to ensure their needs are addressed in our plans to make the Borough a great place to live, work and play**

The inclusive parks project is continuing to be delivered across the borough. Phase 1 for 2024/25 is Denehurst Park. A new café in the park, to open in August, includes a changing places disability access toilet with hoist for people with profound disabilities. Information largely gathered for external grant funding bid for additional inclusive play equipment due to be submitted by September 24. A minimum of 4,000 households now accessing free broadband as part of MESH programme.

5.4 EP2402 Deliver new economic investment, development and business growth

Call for sites consultation on Local Plan has commenced. Progress being made with GMCA to bring in additional resources for Atom Valley and to explore new governance and delivery options for Northern Gateway, including a Mayoral Development Corporation. Construction of new industrial units on Kingsway Plot J2 due to complete by end of 2024.

5.5 EP2403 Create high quality jobs and opportunities for all residents to access and maintain good employment

GMCA has funded a Director now in post to lead the CEAMS project and a series of launch events for businesses held. The Council Work and Skills Team have been working with Children's services to develop the first draft All Age Skills Strategy. Further work is now taking place to map next steps and agree participation to develop that plan.

5.6 EP2404 Create vibrant Town Centres

In Rochdale the next stage of technical design work on the new Station Square proposals have commenced with the intention to start on site in early 2025. At Town Hall square, the main public areas were handed over including the Great Lawns. In Heywood development of the former Marina Ropes site for 72 new affordable homes has commenced. A new Town Centre Manager for Middleton is now in post; she will be supporting the longer term development of the Town Centre and its offer. In Littleborough the Strategic Outline Business Case for Streets for All CRSTS funding has been approved

5.6 EP2405 Make the most of our natural and historic environment and cultural assets

Over 35,000 people have visited the town hall since it re-opened with visitor evaluations being overwhelmingly positive. Visitors are being attracted from across the world who are coming to visit the town hall for the first time. Work is continuing on the development of a cohesive business support package for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses in the borough. Work with GMCA to prepare an Early Evening Economy Strategy is ongoing. Consultation with key stakeholders and partners is now complete. The final strategy is due to be completed by the end of July 24.

5.8 EP2406 Take positive action in response to the Housing Emergency

Positive action is continuing in response to the housing emergency. In the financial year 23/24, 686 new homes were constructed in the borough including completions at key brownfield sites such as Upper Banks Duo, Countryside at Royle Road in Castleton and Nixon Street in Heywood. Significant progress has been made at other sites including the former Akzo Noble industrial site (remediation complete and build under way), Mill Vale (former British Vita land), and Wildhouse Meadows (former Soccer Village complex).

- 5.9 **EP2407 Respond positively to the Climate Emergency**
Cabinet have now approved the EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy. Funding has been received from TfGM for the Council to have a dedicated Project Manager for 2 years to work on EV infrastructure. The Council has submitted a joint GM bid for funding for physical infrastructure.
- 5.10 **EP2408 Provide an efficient and effective portfolio of assets**
The review of the Council's property portfolio to improve condition and asset use is ongoing. Baseline data has been confirmed and is under review. Work has also commenced on reviewing the investment portfolio. All property data will be added to Tech Forge which will give a more realistic overview of asset performance / survey data and required spend captured in WLCC surveys. Refurbishment work to Castleton community centre has commenced.
- 5.11 **EP2409 Maximise income for the Council**
The delivery of the Town Hall business and marketing plan is progressing well. Quarter 1 figures have now been finalised with all main areas of the business showing positive growth, apart from the restaurant (due to open in September 2024). Since re-opening there has been over 35,000 visitors. Events and functions enquiries are continuing to come in with admin support recruited to try to manage the level of enquiries more effectively. Recruitment challenges have meant that some service areas are under-staffed, work is ongoing to recruit to key areas but is proving challenging (especially in specialist kitchen/chef roles and in the hospitality element of the business plan)
- 5.12 **EP2410 Capitalise on devolution and funding opportunities to support economic growth and place making**
Over 1,500 community responses received to the consultation on the Heywood Long Term Plan for Towns with work progressing well to submit our bid for funding on 1st August. Northern Gateway has secured £10m from the Investment Zone to improve the road network. Work is ongoing with GMCA and Bury to scope out how this will be delivered. Work is ongoing to explore how the rest of the investment zone allocations (linked to skills, innovation, business support etc.) can support the demand for and delivery of development at Northern Gateway.
- 5.13 **EP2411 Deliver high quality and effective services**
The roll out of new ICT software across the Economy & Place directorate to improve customer access is ongoing. Environmental Management are delivering ICT solutions to the frontline workforce as part of the transformation programme. A pilot for digital access to ITrent for operatives has concluded and an implementation plan is underway, expected to be in place by Q3.
- 6 **Finance**
There are no finance issues associated with this report

- 7 **Legal**
There are no legal issues associated with this report

- 8 **Human resource**
There are no human resource issues associated with this report

- 9 **Sustainability impact**
There are no sustainability impact issues associated with this report





- 10 **Other considerations (corporate priorities, risks)**
None






Background Papers:





Appendix 1 – Economy & Place Directorate Plan 2024-25 Q1





Appendix 2 - RDA Performance Report 2024-25 Q1


Contact: Ben Jorgensen, Data Innovation & Intelligence Manager –
ben.jorgensen@rochdale.gov.uk




Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
EP2401 Consult, engage and involve all our communities to ensure their needs are addressed in our plans to make the Borough a great place to live, work and play		31 March 2025		28%
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2401.A	Work with Business In The Community to develop the Asian Business Network and encourage regular events	31 March 2025		25%
<p>BITC have now appointed a new member of staff who has had initial meetings with RDA and has been tasked developing the network as a priority.</p>				
EP2401.B	Reduce digital inequalities by providing free broadband to the most deprived neighbourhoods and support residents to gain digital skills to improve lives through access to services and opportunities	31 March 2025		25%
<p>4000 households are accessing free WiFi, we are waiting for RBH to confirm their commitment to support with the installation so we can expand to Smallbridge but after a meeting we had with their SLT they are keen to support the roll out.</p> <p>We have received 328 referrals for digital support, since April 2024.</p> <p>172 of those accessed DATA (sim cards)</p> <p>119 loaned a device</p> <p>92 undertook learning</p> <p>25 simply requested info</p> <p>15 were referred on and 26 did not engage.</p> <p>4 went in to employment.</p>				
EP2401.C	Deliver the inclusive parks project across the Borough	31 March 2025		35%
<p>Phase 1 for 2024 / 25 is Denehurst Park. New café in the park includes a changing places high spec disability access toilet with hoist for people profound disabilities, to be one of the first in the North West in a public park. Installed and cafe due to open by end August. Information largely gathered for external grant funding bid for additional inclusive play equipment etc, due to be submitted by September 24. Access statement on Council web page upgraded to enable informed decision making by potential visitors with disabilities.</p>				





Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
EP2402 Deliver new economic investment, development and business growth		31 March 2025		25%
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2402.A	Secure collaboration agreements with Bury, GMCA and other key stakeholders to progress delivery of the Northern Gateway	30 October 2024		25%
Progress being made with GMCA to bring in additional resources and explore new governance models, including a Mayoral Development Corporation. These will form the foundation of the expected collaboration agreements.				
EP2402.B	Consult on Draft Local Plan	31 March 2025		25%
Regulation 18 consultation covering Call for Sites and Integrated Assessment Scoping Report has commenced and will conclude in August.				
EP2402.C	Adopt strategic development and infrastructure frameworks for Atom Valley employment sites Northern Gateway	31 March 2025		25%
<u>Northern Gateway</u>				
Work on-going with Bury Council and NGDV to develop a draft SPD development framework. Engagement with landowners proposed in July and public consultation in the Autumn.				
<u>Stakehill</u>				
Discussions continue with Oldham Council continue in respect of developing an infrastructure plan for the site. Evergreen funding has been secured to support that process.				
EP2402.D	Develop and improve the Borough's business parks to provide high quality accommodation for new businesses and job creation	31 March 2025		25%
<u>Kingsway Business Park</u>				
- Construction work continues on Plot J2 employment units (2 units totalling 203,000 sq ft) - due to complete Dec 24.				
- Planning permission recently granted for 57 new home at Plot W including conversion of Silver Hill Farm building.				




Action Plan	Due Date	Status	% Complete										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning applications under consideration for i) a petrol filling station and associated facilities at Plot U2, ii) four medium sized industrial units at Plot L and iii) a battery storage plant adjacent to Broadshaw Farm. - Works to complete Michael Faraday Avenue are due to commence in summer 2024. <p><u>Stakehill Industrial Estate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic Regulation Orders proposing an increased extent of double yellow lining within the Industrial Estate will shortly be advertised with the aim of reducing parking on bends and increasing road safety. - Stakehill Business Improvement District, supported by RDA and RBC, continue to improve the appearance and functioning of the estate, including funding new litter bins, new and cleaned locational signage and courses for employees of businesses within the estate. - A further Business Event is planned as part of the Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan, building on ongoing data collection work. - An Energy Infrastructure Report has recently been completed assessing the likely future energy demand, and how this can be met, for development taking place as part of the expansion envisaged under the Places for Everyone allocation. 													
<p><u>Northern Gateway</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase 2 widening works to the J19 Link Road, between Pilsworth Road and Moss Hall Road / Whittle Lane have now been completed. - Over 50 new homes are now occupied in the two residential developments fronting Manchester Road. - National Highways are continuing with the PCF stage 0a SRN modelling with initial outputs expected in Q2. NH will present the initial outputs along with next steps to the Mayoral Development Zone Board in October (Q3). - Local Highways modelling and design options for Western Access also continue and will link with the emerging SRN strategy. Outputs are also anticipated in Q2. 													
<p>EP2403 Create high quality jobs and opportunities for all residents to access and maintain good employment</p>	<p>31 March 2025</p>		<p>38%</p>										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="71 1364 257 1452">Ref.</th> <th data-bbox="257 1364 1456 1452">Name</th> <th data-bbox="1456 1364 1780 1452">Due</th> <th data-bbox="1780 1364 1937 1452">Status</th> <th data-bbox="1937 1364 2123 1452">% Complete</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="71 1452 257 1532">EP2403.A</td> <td data-bbox="257 1452 1456 1532">Secure funding to progress the development of the Atom Valley Innovation Centre on Kingsway Business Park</td> <td data-bbox="1456 1452 1780 1532">31 March 2025</td> <td data-bbox="1780 1452 1937 1532">  </td> <td data-bbox="1937 1452 2123 1532">50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete	EP2403.A	Secure funding to progress the development of the Atom Valley Innovation Centre on Kingsway Business Park	31 March 2025		50%			
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete									
EP2403.A	Secure funding to progress the development of the Atom Valley Innovation Centre on Kingsway Business Park	31 March 2025		50%									






Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
Funding for physical build and its initial operation secured. Discussions and engagement with other funding bodies and innovation related organisations continue in respect of programmes and innovation related activities.				
EP2403.B	Collaborate with partners to adopt an All Age Skills Strategy and Action Plan	31 December 2024		33%
Work and Skills Team have been working with Children’s services to develop the first draft All Age Skills Strategy. Further work is now taking place to map next steps and agree participation to develop that plan.				
EP2403.C	Develop a viable business case to create a Centre for Advanced Sustainable Materials in Atom Valley	31 December 2024		33%
Initial business case in place. Work now is taking place to identify innovation gaps. Presentations have been made to the AV sub groups. Next stage will involve industry engagement and meeting held with MIDAS and Growth Company to coordinate business engagement.				
EP2404	Create vibrant Town Centres	31 March 2025		45%
Res	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2404.A	Regenerate the Borough’s Town Centres improving accessibility, the quality and condition of property and public realm	31 March 2025		25%
<u>Rochdale</u>				
- The next stage of technical design work on the new Station Square proposals outside Rochdale Railway station has commenced with the intention to start on site in early 2025. We are continuing to work with an architect re proposals for improvements to the Station Entrance.				
- At Town Hall Square, the main public areas have now been handed over including the Great Lawns. The remedial work to replace defective paving is underway. The compound hoarding is being moved back to accommodate the Feel Good Festival. Requested changes to the car park layout have been proposed and costed and are subject to RBC approval and funding. Access arrangements are still being finalised to incorporate the commercial and security requirements.				
<u>Heywood</u>				
- The baseline study for Heywood is now complete. A series of baseline data has been collated to inform performance indicators which can be reviewed to highlight the extent of how outcomes have changed in the future linked to masterplan interventions.				
- CRSTS Streets for All / Quality Bus Corridor Scheme. TfGM are analysing feedback from first phase community engagement. Modelling analysis of the town centre and				






Action Plan	Due Date	Status	% Complete
<p>surrounding transport network has taken place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement has taken place for the Long Term Plan for Towns. Over 1,500 responses received for the online survey and several community focus groups have been held. Thematic workshops with key stakeholders are currently taking place. - Development of the former Marina Ropes site for 72 new affordable homes is now underway. <p><u>Middleton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The baseline study for Heywood is now complete. A series of baseline data has been collated to inform performance indicators which can be reviewed to highlight the extent of how outcomes have changed in the future linked to masterplan interventions - The Strategic Outline Business Case for the CRSTS Streets for All scheme on Long Street/ Market Place has been submitted. - Work is ongoing to develop the Supplementary Planning Document for the North East side of the masterplan. - The drafting of Middleton’s Heritage Trail is ongoing. - A new Town Centre Manager for Middleton is now in post. She will be supporting the longer term development of the Town Centre and its offer. <p><u>Littleborough</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Strategic Outline Business Case for Streets for All CRSTS funding has been approved - Officers are currently working on details for project options that fit within the funding. 			
<p>EP2404.B Develop Rochdale Town Hall as a cultural and visitor attraction to maximise its contribution to the Borough’s visitor economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The central and east wing of the building have opened to the public and are working well. The TH is hosting public cultural events as well as commercial events and the offer has been well received. - Over 35,000 people have visited the town hall since it re-opened with visitor evaluations being overwhelmingly positive. Visitors are also being attracted from across the world who are coming to visit the town hall for the first time. 	<p>31 March 2025</p>		<p>40%</p>




Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
<p>- Phase 3 works continue on site with progress being made in all areas. The Changing Places facility has been completed and grant claim submitted as has the ASHP Salix grant. Further training courses have been provided in conservation in the Council Chamber and research undertaken into the new Mayor's Parlour wall finishes.</p>				
EP2404.C	Deliver the NLHF funded Rochdale Town Hall Activity Plan (including activities in Town Hall Square)	31 March 2025		40%
<p><u>The Slopes</u></p> <p>- The NLHF second round delivery grant secured and the team are preparing to start RIBA Stage 4 work and tender documentation. Scheme will be on site spring 25</p> <p>- The West Slopes have been planted and the railings are now being installed.</p> <p><u>The Activity Plan</u></p> <p>- Since opening, Rochdale Town Hall has welcomed over 35,000 visitors from all over the world. Many have never been to Rochdale before and made the trip especially to visit the newly restored town hall.</p> <p>- Over 2500 attended the opening day on March 3rd 2024</p> <p>- The public programme at the town hall had sought to deliver an offer for all audiences. Since re-opening, the offer has included a Science Festival, Colourscape (giant, inflatable, interactive bubbles in Town Hall Square), holiday activities for children, visual arts sensory workshops with SEN students from Redwood Primary School, and daily visitor tours.</p> <p>- To date, 1,393 individuals have booked on our guided tours within the last 3 months.</p> <p>- Next priority is to develop KS1-3 sessions for school group visits</p>				
EP2404.D	Adopt Evening Economy Strategy for the Borough and develop an Action Plan for Rochdale Town Centre	31 March 2025		75%
<p>- The work with GMCA to develop an Early Evening Economy Strategy for Rochdale is drawing to a close. Consultation with key stakeholders and partners is now complete. The final strategy is due to be completed by the end of July 24.</p>				
EP2405 Make the most of our natural and historic environment and cultural assets		31 March 2025		25%




Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2405.A	Secure funding and progress projects which enhance the condition of the Borough’s heritage and cultural assets to support the visitor economy	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Work is continuing on the development of a cohesive business support package for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses, with proposed implementation in Q2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The final report received from High Streets Task Force. - The work with GMCA to develop an Early Evening Economy Strategy for Rochdale is drawing to a close. Consultation with key stakeholders and partners is now complete. The final strategy is due to be completed by the end of July 24. 				
EP2405.B	Secure funding and progress projects which enhance the condition of the Borough’s heritage and cultural assets to support the visitor economy	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Work is continuing on the development of a cohesive business support package for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses, with proposed implementation in Q2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The final report received from High Streets Task Force. - The work with GMCA to develop an Early Evening Economy Strategy for Rochdale is drawing to a close. Consultation with key stakeholders and partners is now complete. The final strategy is due to be completed by the end of July 24. - Middleton Town Centre Manager appointed. - Exploring options to establish a Middleton place-based brand identity. 				
EP2405.C	Support the continued delivery of flood mitigation and resilience projects	31 March 2025		25%
<p>Phase 1b of River Roch Flood Alleviation Scheme - construction work has commenced at Gale Basin, Todmorden Road, Littleborough. Early engagement and initial modelling and site investigation programme is being confirmed for Phase 2 Smithy Bridge to Rochdale town centre.</p> <p>Resilient Roch programme continues – property flood resilience surveys underway and public realm/neighborhood SuDS option development in progress. Littleborough Toll House Flood Hub currently seeking planning permission. Natural Flood management works at Rochdale Children’s Moorland Home completed.</p>				
EP2406	Take positive action in response to the Housing Emergency	31 March 2025		22%







Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2406.A	Accelerate the delivery of a range of new homes across the Borough	31 March 2025		25%
<p>In the financial year 23/24, 686 new homes were constructed in the borough including completions at key brownfield sites such as Upper Banks Duo, Countryside at Royle Road in Castleton and Nixon Street in Heywood.</p> <p>Significant progress has been made at other sites including the former Akzo Noble industrial site (remediation complete and build under way), Mill Vale (former British Vita land), and Wildhouse Meadows (former Soccer Village complex).</p>				
EP2406.B	Progress the delivery of Rail Corridor housing sites programme	31 March 2025		25%
<p><u>Rochdale</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Station Corner: Planning permission secured for 6-storey building containing 33 apartments and a number of commercial units. - The next stage of technical design work on the new Station Square proposals has commenced with the intention to start on site in early 2025. We are continuing to work with an architect on the proposals for the improvements to the Station Entrance. <p><u>Littleborough</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area in front of the arches is currently being marketed to potential food/drink/craft vendors. Engagement has begun with Network Rail in regards to adding a deck onto the existing car park at the station. <p><u>Castleton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conversations with Network Rail are ongoing in regards to their land to the north and the south of the station. The proposals for the land to the south of the station are subject to a Network Rail business clearance process. - Planning application by Kellen Homes for the delivery of 191 homes at Castleton Sidings gained resolution to approve from Planning and Licensing Committee. 				
EP2406.C	Work with key Strategic Housing Partners to increase delivery of affordable homes across the Borough	31 March 2025		10%
<p>Through the Rochdale Strategic Housing Partnership we are working to identify key providers who will enter into formal partnership arrangements to deliver in addition to business-as-usual developments. Existing site programmes, including those with brownfield funding, are coming forwards to establish a pipeline of development.</p>				

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
EP2406.D	Remodel homelessness temporary accommodation to increase throughput making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring	31 March 2025		25%
Reconfiguration and design of RBC Family Temporary Accommodation has been principally agreed, and will be implemented over the next 6 months, with a view to increasing portfolio by 15 units. Wider work for a TA Framework and improve homelessness prevention activity it underway and will support the aim of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-occurring.				
EP2406.E	Reduce the use of Bed and Breakfast for Statutory Homelessness Households and eliminate length of stay exceeding 6 weeks	31 March 2025		25%
B&B Elimination Plan has now been agreed, and a clear corporate priority to address this. A cross-department working group has now been established to work through key actions to accelerate alternatives to TA				
EP2407	Respond positively to the Climate Emergency	31 March 2025		25%
EP2407.A	Progress delivery of EV charging infrastructure across the borough	31 March 2025		25%
Cabinet have approved the EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy. Funding has been received from TfGM for the Council to have a dedicated Project Manager for 2 years to work on EV infrastructure. The Council has submitted a joint GM bid for funding for physical infrastructure and await the details of this.				
EP2407.B	Progress the delivery of the CRSTS and Active Travel funding projects	31 March 2025		25%
Bee Network Phase 2 is planned to be presented to Cabinet in Q2				
Middleton Streets for All project is scheduled to have its Strategic Outline Business Case presented to Bee Network Committee in Q2				
Littleborough Streets for All has an approved SOBC and work to detail this project is now on-going.				
Heywood QBT is currently subject to further consultation				
Work is ongoing at the business case stage by TfGM for the Rochdale to Oldham QBT proposals				

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
EP2407.C	Secure funding for refurbishment of Rochdale railway station	31 December 2024		25%
Options to secure funding to support Rochdale Station delivery and Rochdale Station South are being explored.				
EP2407.D	Progress delivery of the Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan at Stakehill Industrial Estate	31 March 2025		25%
- LIDP website complete, and key events planned for Q2.				
- Data collection from Stakehill businesses completed by partners, and a baseline energy usage report produced for University of Manchester to start scenario modelling in Q2.				
EP2408 Provide an efficient and effective portfolio of assets		31 March 2025		25%
EP2408.A	Review the Council's property portfolio to improve condition and asset use, identify development opportunities and support strategic and financial objectives	31 March 2025		25%
Work is ongoing reviewing the Council's operational property portfolio. Baseline data has been confirmed and is under review. Work has also commenced on reviewing the investment portfolio.				
All property data will be added to Tech Forge which will give a more realistic overview of asset performance / survey data and required spend captured in WLCC" surveys				
EP2408.B	Support work to decarbonise the Council's portfolio of assets	31 March 2025		25%
PSDS 3a – Rochdale Town Hall ASHP. This is now a delayed completion scheme which is scheduled for completion in September 2024. Grant has been defrayed and conditions tracker updated.				
PSDS 3b – Castleton Community Centre/Library also a delayed completion project due to be finished in September 2024.				
Swimming Pool Support Fund (SPSF) – Grant agreement finalised in respect of Heywood Sports Village. Specification for Solar Car Ports has been drawn up with support from GMCA. Looking at including EV charging within the scheme and discussion with STaR about procurement options.				
Powering Our Schools – 7 schools and 1 children's centre progressing to next stage. PID has been signed off and is with STaR. Anticipated that procurement process will				

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
commence in the Autumn with projects to commence in 2025/26.				
Castleton Primary School – Additional Solar PV installation. Tenders returned and evaluated. Currently with STaR Procurement for sign off.				
Application for funding through Salix Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF) for detailed design and feasibility work on 4 council buildings has not been successful.				
EP2409 Maximise income for the Council		31 March 2025		31%
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2409.A	Progress delivery of Town Hall business and marketing plan	31 March 2025		20%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarter 1 figures finalised. All main areas of business showing positive growth, apart from the restaurant (due to open in September 2024) - Over 35,000 visitors to the town hall since it opened - Events and functions enquiries continue to come in, admin support recruited to try to manage the level of enquiries more effectively. - Recruitment challenges have meant that some service areas are under-staffed, work to recruit to key areas continues but is proving challenging (especially in specialist kitchen/chef roles and in the hospitality element of the business plan) - The town hall lost its Marketing Manager in its opening week. Further challenges around recruiting to this post. Recent interviews have proved successful and preferred candidate hopefully starting in post in September. Finance & Admin Manager starting in post in September. This key role will help to monitor our key areas of operation, and create more visibility on income and expenditure related to the current business plan 			
EP2409.B	Open The Martlet Kitchen restaurant at Rochdale Town Hall	31 August 2024		30%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Town Hall team currently working to an official Martlet Kitchen opening date of 23rd September 2024 - Kitchen and restaurant team slowly being recruited to in order to deliver the restaurant operation. To date, the following staff are in post: - Executive Chef 			

Action Plan	Due Date	Status	% Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 x sous chefs - 1 x Kitchen Porter - 1 x Pastry Chef - 2 x casual kitchen staff - 1 x Restaurant Manager - 1 x Assistant Restaurant Manager <p>Waiting staff are still required. Need to re-advertise role following disappointing take-up first time round.</p> <p>Working with a specialist PR company to market the new restaurant to a broad audience base, and put it 'on the map'</p>			
<p>EP2409.C Support transformation activities identifying new sources of income across Economy and Place services</p> <p>Budgeting Control and Planning Services The services have now progressed with the procurement of new software that will support transformation. The services continue to focus on income generation and, in building control, growing external/commercial fee income.</p> <p>Environmental Management: EM Services restructure that includes creating External Grants and Income Manager Post finalised and due to go to SCG July. Bowlee Plant Nursery trialling plant sales in parks and at events, have started at Bowlee Car Boot and Queen's Park, book in for Family Picnic events in parks.</p>	31 March 2025		25%
<p>EP2409.D Develop and implement Fly Tipping Strategy across the Borough</p> <p>The first phase of the strategy has been concluded following extensive work with a members working group. We are currently implementing the recommendations from this including a restructure to form the 'Environmental Quality Team'. A report is being prepared for the EM Champions and Overview and Scrutiny to advise of the next steps.</p>	31 December 2024		50%
<p>EP2410 Capitalise on devolution and funding opportunities to support economic growth and place making</p>	31 December 2024		37%

Action Plan		Due Date	Status	% Complete
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2410.A	Maximise the economic opportunities for the Borough from the designation of Northern Gateway as GM Investment Zone	31 December 2024		25%
<p>- Northern Gateway has secured £10m from the Investment Zone to improve the road network. Work is ongoing to scope out how this will be delivered</p> <p>- Work is ongoing to explore how the rest of the investment zone allocations (linked to skills, innovation, business support etc) can support the demand for and delivery of development at Northern Gateway</p>				
EP2410.B	Agree a programme of projects to secure the Levelling Up Partnerships Fund and progress on-site delivery	31 October 2024		25%
Options to secure funding to support Rochdale Station delivery and Rochdale Station South being explored.				
EP2410.C	Submit Heywood Long Term Plan for Towns Vision and Investment Plan	31 August 2024		75%
Engagement has taken place for the Long Term Plan for Towns, over 1,500 responses were received for the online survey and several community focus groups have been held. Thematic workshops with key stakeholders are currently taking place. Draft Investment Plan being prepared.				
EP2410.D	Agree a pipeline of development / infrastructure projects to be included in the GM Investment Plan	31 December 2024		25%
Submission made to GMCA. Discussions on-going with Chief Executives and Directors of Place in respect of submissions and funding needed to support key milestones.				
EP2411 Deliver high quality and effective services		31 March 2025		27%
Ref.	Name	Due	Status	% Complete
EP2411.A	Roll out of new ICT software across Economy and Place to improve customer access and experience, efficiency and performance	31 March 2025		25%
<u>Planning & Building Control:</u>				
Agreement with preferred IT provider completed and final procurement steps relating to PID about to be concluded. Anticipated commencement of new project in Summer 2024, which is expected to have a 9 – 12 month duration. Discussions continuing with IT Services & Assistant Director for Transformation to procure an external IT expert who has supported another GM council and can provide additional capacity and expertise to the services for project implementation and maximise quick wins.				

Action Plan	Due Date	Status	% Complete
<u>Environmental Management:</u>			
The implementation of the new CRM software has been delayed as agreed by Transformation Board for Environmental Management until Q3			
EP2411.B	Deliver the Transformation programme within Environmental Management	31 March 2025	30%
Environmental Management are delivering ICT solutions to the frontline workforce as part of the transformation programme.			
A pilot for digital access to ITrent for operatives has concluded and an implementation plan is underway, expected to be in place by Q3.			



Delivery Plan 2024/25

Overview

The RDA mission and vision follows the Rochdale Council Plan 2028 which sets out the ambition of Rochdale Borough Council.



Mission

To improve the socio-economic strength of the borough.



Vision

Rochdale will be a more desirable location with an innovative, productive and equitable economy.

RDA achieves the mission and vision by co-operatively supporting the development and growth of the Rochdale economy through targeted activities. The activities detailed in this delivery plan are aligned to five socio-economic pillars.



Activity	Purpose	Objective	Lead	Progress
Town Centres & Key Sites	<i>Regenerate the boroughs Town Centres & key sites improving the quality to enhance the local offer increasing footfall and spend.</i>	Progress delivery of the Rochdale Rail Corridor Programme	LS	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Rochdale</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Corner Plot scheme has now received planning permission for 33 apartments and a number of commercial units across a 6 storey residential block. - The next stage of technical design work on the new Station Square proposals has commenced with the intention to start on site in early 2025. We are continuing to work with an architect on the proposals for the improvements to the Station Entrance. - Planning permission has been granted for the Station Gardens housing scheme and discussions are continuing with central government (DLUHC) to seek funding from the Levelling Up Partnerships as well as other funds to progress the scheme. ▪ <u>Littleborough</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area in front of the arches is currently being marketed to potential food/drink/craft vendors. Engagement has begun with Network Rail in regards to adding a deck onto the existing car park at the station. ▪ <u>Castleton</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conversations with Network Rail are ongoing in regards to their land to the north and the south of the station. The proposals for the land to the south of the station are subject to a Network Rail business clearance process. - A property improvement scheme in Castleton is currently being developed. - Planning permission has been granted to Kellen Homes for the delivery of 200 homes at Castleton Sidings. 		

		Progress delivery of key regeneration projects in Rochdale Town Centre	GD	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Upperbanks</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Hampton by Hilton Hotel opened to the public in September 2023. The Upperbanks apartments are being managed & marketed by Urban Bubble on behalf of the Council. Lettings are steady and marketing activities continue. ▪ <u>Rochdale Riverside</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terms agreed for new letting on Unit 3 and solicitors instructed. This will take the scheme occupancy to 97%. - Serious interest in last remaining new build unit from a multiple restaurant operator. - Footfall and car park revenue ahead of comparable period last year. 		
		Progress delivery of Town Centre Masterplan projects	GMc	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Heywood</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The baseline study for Heywood is now complete, a series of baseline data has been collated to become performance indicators which can be reviewed to highlight the extent of how the outcomes have changed in the future, as a result of the interventions within the masterplan. - CRSTS Streets for All/ Quality Bus Corridor Scheme. TfGM have analysed the feedback from the first phase of community engagement and the modelling analysis of the town centre and the surrounding transport network has taken place. - Engagement has taken place for the Long Term Plan for Towns, over 1,500 responses were received for the online survey and several community focus groups have been held. Thematic workshops with key stakeholders are currently taking place. - The marina ropes development is now on site. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Middleton</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The baseline study for Middleton is now complete, a series of baseline data has been collated to become performance indicators which can be reviewed to highlight the extent of how the outcomes have changed in the future, as a result of the interventions within the masterplan. - The Strategic Outline Business Case for the CRSTS Streets for All scheme on Long Street/ Market Place has been submitted. - Work is ongoing to develop the Supplementary Planning Document for the North East side of the masterplan. - The drafting of Middleton’s Heritage Trail is ongoing. - A new Town Centre Manager for Middleton was appointed in May 2024 to support the longer term development of the Town Centre and its offer. 		
		Actively engage with businesses to develop the boroughs Town Centre offer	CM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively engaging with businesses throughout Middleton town centre to identify opportunities for development and progression. - Developing relationships with businesses and stakeholders in Middleton town centre to ensure increased levels of engagement and cooperation, identifying key stakeholders. 		
Heritage Projects	<i>Enhance the condition of the boroughs heritage and cultural assets to support the visitor economy.</i>	Progress refurbishment of Rochdale Town Hall, Town Hall Square and The Slopes	EB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Rochdale Town Hall</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The central and east wing of the building have opened to the public and are working well. The TH is hosting public cultural events as well as commercial events and the offer has been well received. Phase 3 works continue on site with progress being made in all areas. The Changing Places facility has been completed and grant claim submitted as has the ASHP Salix grant. Further training courses have been provided in conservation in the Council Chamber and exciting research undertaken into the new Mayor’s Parlour wall finishes. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Rochdale Town Hall Square</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The main public areas have now been handed over including the Great Lawns. The remedial work to replace defective paving is underway. The compound hoarding is being moved back to accommodate the Feel Good Festival. Requested changes to the car park layout have been proposed and costed and are subject to RBC approval and funding. Access arrangements are still being finalised to incorporate the commercial and security requirements. ▪ <u>The Slopes</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The NLHF second round delivery grant is secured, the planning issues have now been overcome and the team are preparing to start the RIBA Stage 4 work and tender documentation. The scheme will be on site next spring 2025. - The West Slopes have been planted and the railings are now being installed. 		
Progress key improvement projects to local cultural and historic areas			ER/ PM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Heywood Civic</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning approval has been received for the refurbishment and extension of the Heywood Civic Centre. The second stage of procurement is ongoing with tender prices awaiting return from the Main Contractor. - Pre-construction works including asbestos removal and internal demolition works have begun and will be taking place for a period of 2-3 months, to prepare for the Main Contract Works, which are planned to follow on. The Main Contract works programme is in the process of being prepared and finalised. - Landscape architects have been appointed to explore options for the redesign of Heywood Civic Square to improve access to the new extension and to create more flexibility in the use of the square for public events. Engagement to inform the design is taking place over the next 3 months. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Touchstones</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction work has started on site but has been delayed by over 2.5 months due to highways and procurement issues. - Planning approval received with a number of conditions – pre-commencement conditions have been completed. - Asbestos and lead paint removal took place prior to construction works starting. - Contractor procurement took place with a preferred contractor being appointed and starting on site this month. Announcement to be made following elections. - First floor works progressing and submitted for planning approval. ▪ <u>Hopwood Hall</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NLHF grant acceptance in delay and at risk, with little to no progress made with the Foundation on delivery arrangements. Briefing note to Members and the working group is being prepared by legal on the option to purchase alternatives. License to occupy is currently under discussion with the film company due to health and safety breaches and to it being now not fit for current occupation. ▪ <u>Tonge Hall</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement exercise carried out to procure a new scaffolding contractor. - Contractor took possession of the site at beginning of June and will complete works by beginning of August 2024. - Structural survey completed, the building has deteriorated significantly. 		
Business Parks	<i>Develop the boroughs business parks to provide accessible</i>	Progress delivery of physical projects located within Atom Valley	RD/DR	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Kingsway Business Park</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction work continues on the Plot J2 employment units (2 units totalling 203,000 sq ft) and is due to complete in December 2024. 		

	<p>high quality accommodation for new business and job creation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning permission has recently been granted for a scheme of 57 residential units at Plot W including the conversion of the listed Silver Hill Farm building. - Planning applications are also under consideration for i) a petrol filling station and associated facilities at Plot U2, ii) four medium sized industrial units at Plot L and iii) a battery storage plant adjacent to Broadshaw Farm. - Works to complete Michael Faraday Avenue are due to commence in summer 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Stakehill Industrial Estate</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic Regulation Orders proposing an increased extent of double yellow lining within the Industrial Estate will shortly be advertised with the aim of reducing parking on bends and increasing road safety. - Stakehill Business Improvement District, supported by RDA and RBC, continue to improve the appearance and functioning of the estate, including funding new litter bins, new and cleaned locational signage and courses for employees of businesses within the estate. - A further Business Event is planned as part of the Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan, building on ongoing data collection work. - An Energy Infrastructure Report has recently been completed assessing the likely future energy demand, and how this can be met, for development taking place as part of the expansion envisaged under the Places for Everyone allocation. ▪ <u>Northern Gateway</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase 2 widening works to the J19 Link Road, between Pilsworth Road and Moss Hall Road / Whittle Lane have now been completed. - Over 50 new homes are now occupied in the two residential developments fronting Manchester Road. - National Highways are continuing with the PCF stage 0a SRN modelling with initial outputs expected in Q2. NH will present the initial outputs along with next steps to the Mayoral Development Zone Board in October (Q3). - Local Highways modelling and design options for Western Access also continue and will link with the emerging SRN strategy. Outputs are also anticipated in Q2. 		
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		Progress delivery of SMMC (AVIC) Building on Kingsway Business Park	MG	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request from potential operator to redesign internal space to accommodate larger lecture theatre also means additional time needed to finalise drawings prior to Planning Application submission. - Uncertainty over build costs until the scheme is actually tendered. 		
Commercial Property	<i>Manage and develop land and property to provide high quality accommodation for new business and job creation.</i>	Review the Council's industrial estates portfolio to improve asset use, identify development opportunities, realise capital value and maximise return	ML	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rent collection levels for last year 2023-24 were 87%. 10% were voids due to requiring works, refurbishment or to re-let. The remaining 3% is a combination of historic or ongoing debt. - An expression of interest was conducted for the refurbishment of Phoenix Close and Lincoln Close Industrial Estate. 13 responses were received. 		
		Acquisition and development of properties to meet the Council's strategic and financial objectives	MN/SP	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Mossfield, Heywood</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheme under review following interest in the site from a large food retailer. ▪ <u>Plot V & M, Kingsway Business Park</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A financial appraisal has been completed. - Scheme under review following a large Rochdale employer interested in the site. 		

Activity	Purpose	Objective	Lead	Progress
Location Promotion & Placemaking	<i>Amplify Rochdale's story to position the Borough as a destination of choice to live, work, play and visit.</i>	Develop a coherent placed based approach to enhance Rochdale's Brand Perception & Awareness	AS	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have engaged with a creative agency to write a 'statement piece' for Rochdale and a video. This will act as an elevator pitch for partners and stakeholders. - 61,668 views on LinkedIn, 180 new followers, and 6.6k website visits. 		
		Collaborate effectively with Partners and Key Stakeholders to market the pipeline of projects and activities	AS	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently arranging a familiarisation trip by MIDAS and Marketing Manchester to Rochdale – will include Steve Kuncewicz and key members of staff – aimed at more junior members of staff to ensure they understand our 'product'. 		
		Elevate Rochdale's position as a premier location for capital investment	AS	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEAMS – a launch, demo day, event in parliament with composites UK and round table event took place. A video, three case studies and write up have been created. - SMMC – working with Justin Kelly and have created a brand and assets for this initiative. - LIDP website launched. 		
		Elevate Rochdale's position as a premier cultural, heritage and visitor destination	AS	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Media Executive appointed. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launched Instagram channel which so far is achieving 20% engagement rate and is on track to double the number of followers than was predicted. - The Keira Walsh mural in Rochdale Town Centre, attracted significant national media coverage including BBC. 		
Innovation Programmes	Support companies to become more productive, sustainable & position Rochdale as an attractive place to invest	Successfully deliver the CEAMS collaborative R&D programme	MG	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEAMS continues to deliver against the original scope and is on programme. Successful Launch Event and Demo day held. 		
		Develop and validate a future business case for CEAMS building on work already undertaken by RDA	MG	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future business case being prepared and feedback is being sought from stakeholders and industry. A series of workshops have been held. 		
		Build partnerships with RTO's, Universities & Industry to explore future programmes of funding and support the sustainability of a future centre	MG	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular meetings held with RTO partners and UoM to understand the 'ask' / 'need' for the future centre. Dedicated resource within RTO to support future funding bids. 		
Market Research & Insight	Drive initial investment in key initiatives to support further public/private investment to bolster the area's	Create business cases that can secure further funding or future projects in to Rochdale	NE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding secured to explore concept options to identify capacity for conversion of town centre assets to residential accommodation and to support the submission of the planning application for SMMC (AVIC). - Pipeline of future bids being prepared for Q2 submissions. - Options to secure funding to support Rochdale Station delivery and Rochdale Station South being explored. 		

	economic prosperity.	Create business cases that can unlock the delivery of Atom Valley development and infrastructure	DR	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant funding secured in Q1 for Western Access, which will facilitate the business case and design options for the next phase of works at J19 link road. - Further funding bids submitted in Q1 for Northern Gateway with outcome of these expected in Q2, including bid to support further business case development for Northern Gateway. 		

Activity	Purpose	Objective	Lead	Progress
Business Support & Development	<i>Drive growth within existing businesses while attracting businesses in strategic industries to bolster the area's economic prosperity.</i>	Enhance Business Engagement & Relationship Management	MM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business networking and events held, including CEAMS launch, Talent Foundry and Stakehill Local Industrial Decarbonisation Project. - 3 Netwalks with new businesses joining, resulting in new connections and supply chain opportunities. ▪ <u>BITC Asian Business Network</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting BITC staff member. 		
		Identify and Refer to Business Support Programmes	MM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responded to enquiries, and account management meetings taking place with referrals to appropriate partners / organisations. - Continue to promote the IUK project CEAMS to businesses. 		
		Support occupiers into available property or attract developers to deliver economic growth	MM	➔
Account Management	<i>To ensure that partners across Greater Manchester</i>	Manage services provided by MIDAS as part of SLA with Rochdale	MM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MIDAS Q1 update meeting arranged for Q2. 		

	<i>can support the activities of RDA and work more strategically</i>	Manage services provided by Business Growth Hub as part of SLA with Rochdale	MM	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting data. Data expected in Q2. 		
		Manage services provided by Marketing Manchester as part of SLA with Rochdale	AS/ NW	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partnership work with Marketing Manchester led by Visitor Economy and Marketing continues to progress, with improvements made to the 'Visit Rochdale' microsite on the 'Visit Manchester' website to amplify marketing activity and visibility. 		
Skills Development	<i>Ensuring Rochdale can remain competitive for talent, investment, and jobs by ensuring opportunities exist for all to participate.</i>	Strengthen Academic Engagement and Collaboration, in particular through the Atom Valley Education Challenge Consortium	NE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director for this work appointed by Rochdale Sixth Form - Held first meeting with Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, Rochdale Sixth Form College and Rochdale Council - Chair appointed to group, terms of reference approved and delivery plan being progressed 		
		Influence policy for skills development and economic growth to create opportunities for Rochdale businesses	NE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement with GMCA ongoing and workshop to be held to join up provision between various partners. Focus will be to shape opportunity around future delivery linked to devolved funding. 		

Activity	Purpose	Objective	Lead	Progress
Sustainability Projects & Decarbonisation	Contribute to Rochdale's carbon neutral 2038 target and reduce the impact on climate change.	Explore the implementation of a Heat Network for Rochdale Town Centre	SB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement complete for Detailed Project Development (DPD) stage which will cover techno-economic, commercial and finance, project management and legal work packages. - DPD stage will last for 6 months with an OBC being produced for December 2024. RDA included in the project team and as a key stakeholder. 		
		Progress delivery of EV charging scheme at Kelvin Avenue	MN	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operator held a workshop with local residents and have reassured them of their main concerns. - Continuing to progress with the agreement for lease where outstanding queries and definitions were clarified. - Operator are continuing with site investigations. 		
		Progress delivery of the Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan at Stakehill Industrial Estate	SB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LIDP website complete, and key events planned for Q2. - Data collection from Stakehill businesses completed by partners, and a baseline energy usage report produced for University of Manchester to start scenario modelling in Q2. 		

Green Economy Facilitation	<i>Drive the adoption and implementation of sustainable technologies and working practices.</i>	Promote Carbon Literacy within and beyond the RDA, engaging stakeholders and advocating for Carbon Literacy	SB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 17 members of RDA have successfully completed Carbon Literacy training, and the training is now being promoted with the Rochdale business community. 		

Activity	Purpose	Objective	Lead	Progress
Visitor Economy	Create a vibrant destination for residents and visitors to maximise economic growth, footfall and leisure spend.	Develop the necessary infrastructure and partnerships to support the growth of the Visitor Economy Sector and offer	NW	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work is continuing on the development of a cohesive business support package for the retail, hospitality and leisure businesses, projected to begin implementation in Q2. - The final report received from High Streets Task Force. - The work with GMCA to develop an Early Evening Economy Strategy for Rochdale is drawing to a close. Consultation with key stakeholders and partners is now complete. The final strategy is due to be completed by the end of July 24. - Middleton Town Centre Manager appointed. - Work underway to engage with Businesses to establish a Middleton Business Forum. - Exploring options to establish a Middleton place-based brand identity. 		
		Develop the Rochdale Film Service Function and increase the number of 'Film Days' in the borough	NW/PC	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specialist consultant has been commissioned to undertake a feasibility study to help establish the function. - Initial meeting taken place with Highways, Parking and Estates and key stakeholders. 		
Strategic Festivals & Events	Maximise the impact of Festivals and events, increasing	Deliver a Strategic Festival events programme	LB/AE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mayfest delivered in Middleton, attracting more than 2,000 visitors - Feel Good Family Picnics 		

	<p>visitor number, employment opportunities and place promotion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programme is almost complete for all 4 days. Planning and Prep all on schedule with a large number of community agencies attending to engage with residents throughout the Borough. ▪ Marketing is now live with every child in the Borough receiving a flyer about the events. ▪ All micro commissions for the local arts ecology have now been confirmed, which inc. Cartwheel Arts, Skylight Circus, Touchstones, Your Trust and M6 Theatre. ▪ Engagement for the Carnival Experience are now taking place throughout the Borough. - Feel Good Festival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full Operations and Logistics are now being finalised for the weekend. ▪ Ticket Sales are at 33% - Marketing project a sell-out. ▪ Local Band Atlas won the Battle of the Bands and will open the main stage on the 10th Aug. ▪ 9 Venues are have now signed up to participate in the Feelgood Fringe event on the 9th August. ▪ Based on Marketing Manchester day visitor spend benchmark, the 8,500 projected audience could generate up to £663K for the local economy. - Wild Wanders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Following funding of £71K form Arts Council England, Schools are now confirmed for the event, with engagement starting in schools. ▪ Meeting with key stakeholders on Hollingworth Lake took place, and the event was very well received. 		
<p>Develop Rochdale’s Festival infrastructure and policy framework to maximise the number of events safely delivered by third parties across the borough</p>		<p>LB</p>	<p>➔</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff attended a Safety Advisory Group Training event as part of the process of developing the existing Festival safety policy framework. 				

Cultural Development & Creative Industries	Develop and sustain the Cultural and Creative Industries sector and its offer, maximising its socio-economic impact	Support the growth of the Cultural and Creative industries through a bespoke skills and talent development programme	AE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rochdale Creates website development, successful tender process for website and newsletter administration awarded to Sound Roots. Website scheduled to launch in Q2. - 4 local arts organisations supported to attend intensive fundraising training with National Arts Fundraising School, marketing training delivered for 10 partners with Palmer Squared. - Creative Industries survey completed with over 50 responses. The survey will inform future work programmes. 		
		Deliver a partnership programme of high quality cultural activities enhancing the offer increasing footfall and audience	AE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site visits and ongoing strategic conversations with Factory International for MIF 25 Commissions in Rochdale Town Centre and Heywood. - Programme and engagement activity development with Royal Exchange Theatre for two week festival 7-18th August. 		
		Attract resources and inward investment to support the continued development of the sector and its offer to residents and visitors	AE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EOI for Place Partnership bid (£750k from ACE) submitted with a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children and Young People ▪ Audience and Market Development (Including testing approaches to programming) ▪ Skills and Talent Development ▪ Cultural Infrastructure and maintaining the asset base - A full bid will be submitted in July will require confirmation of match funding. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arts Council and the C&P Team held a National Lottery Project Grant Grass Roots Music Training event attended by 10 local hospitality/grass roots music venues. Grants of up to £40,000 are available. - £71K has been secured to support a wrap-around programme for the Feelgood Festival using existing funding to extend the event to a three day programme 9-11th August. - Since January 2024, we have brokered 17 Arts Council advice sessions, leading to applications securing National Lottery Project Funding of £386K. - Arts Councils Investment in Rochdale totalled £1.257M during the 2023/24 financial year, this represents a 164% increase on the previous year 2022/23. 		
		Support the delivery of a strategic creative learning programme promoting educational attainment and pathways into employment	AE	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First Creative Careers Event delivered with LCEP and Positive Steps in Town Hall – attracting over 900 year 9 pupils and working with more than 40 professionals. - LCEP finalist at Northern Cultural Education Awards 2024. 		
Placemaking & Infrastructure Development	Maximise placemaking and infrastructure development to improve the physical environment and perceptions of place, making Rochdale the	Rochdale Creates Space, Creative workspace Development Programme	OB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Richard Street - Lead tenant secured Breaking Barriers, contracts being finalised before official launch in July. - Butterworth's (14-16 Drake Street) - Progressing with refurbishment of building to provide creative workspace and retail space – planning to open March 2025, with open call launching soon for lead tenant. - 36 Drake Street - Assessing opportunities for additional funding to support the refurbishment of 36 Drake Street into dedicated youth Arts Centre, with Vibe and other potential partners. - Baillie Street Buildings - Working with YourTrust and Coop Archive to assess potential to commission feasibility study – laying the groundwork for project included in DLUC funding. 		

	best place to live, work, play and visit.	Progress local Place based visions in partnership with stakeholders to inform future development priorities and engender a wider sense of ownership of the change agenda	OB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Drake Street / Maclure Road</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft vision prepared following engagement with key stakeholders. - Vision sets out plans for series of ‘Small Moves’ interventions – to be implemented between now and March 2025. ▪ <u>Milkstone Road</u> Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion ongoing with Sheffield University’s school of Architecture for students to work with the C&P team to create a place based vision for Milkstone Rd. 		
		Deliver a programme interventions in the urban environment that support residents and visitors experience of ‘place’	OB	➔
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarter 1 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft plan established ‘Small Moves’ for Drake Street. 		

Key		
😊	Achieved	100%
➔	Progress ahead of schedule	+50%
➡	Progress on track to achieving target	+25%
⬇️	Progress delayed potential to miss target	+0%
😞	Not Achieved	0%

Performance Indicators 2024-25	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative Total	Commentary
Number of businesses receiving RDA assistance	300	120				120	
Number of jobs supported & created with RDA assistance	300	3				3	3 property moves were expected in Q1, delayed to complete in Q2
Amount of space developed or refurbished with RDA assistance (sq. ft.)	380,000	3,174				3,174	
Amount of income opportunities for RBC provided with RDA assistance (£)	1,300,000	300,000				300,000	Direct rental income & business rates
Amount of engagement through digital channels	50,000	37,600				37,600	Website and social media channels
Number of events delivered with RDA assistance	40	4				4	
Number of targeted audiences	80,000	0				0	

Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

Remit of this Committee:

The Committee brings together scrutiny of both the physical and skills aspects of economic regeneration, and the supporting work of services such as leisure, highways, housing, environmental services etc, that provide the opportunities for work and the improvement of life experiences for our communities.

1. To be responsible for scrutiny of partnerships or key contractors (for example, Rochdale Development Agency, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing, Your Trust etc); Regeneration; Local Development Framework; Neighbourhoods and Communities; Housing; Environment; Highways and Licensing, and for overview of the respective Portfolio Holders and Directors.
2. To respond to consultation by Cabinet on relevant policy development proposals.
3. To scrutinise the in-year performance of relevant Council Services, partnership bodies and other appropriate bodies, in accordance with the Council's Quarterly Performance Management Framework and against approved Service Plans, where appropriate.
4. To scrutinise the discharge by the Responsible Authorities within Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership of their crime and disorder functions as set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006.
5. To instigate the appropriate action in response to adverse service performance.
6. To scrutinise inspection reports and associated action plans produced by external agencies (where appropriate to this Committee)
7. To review and scrutinise executive decisions where appropriate to this Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution, which have been called-in by Members of the Council.
8. To receive reports, where appropriate, from the Council's representatives on outside bodies, and to direct representatives to report to the Council, where appropriate.
9. To commission, scope and oversee studies and reviews relating to relevant Council Services and issues directly affecting the Borough and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to the Cabinet arising from such studies and reviews

Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

10. To consider Directorate Plans in line with Council Policy.

These are the prioritisation criteria as outlined in the recently published Overview and Scrutiny Statutory Guidance for Councils, Combined Authorities and County Combined Authorities

- Do we understand the benefits scrutiny would bring to this issue?
- How could we best carry out work on this subject?
- What would be the best outcome of this work?
- How would this work engage with the activity of the executive and other decision-makers, including partners?

CRE Meetings in 2024/25

21 st May 2024		
Item	Purpose	Outcome
RBH Progress Recovery Plan Progress Update		
Neighbourhoods Directorate Performance Report Q4		
Economy Directorate Performance Report Q4		
Public Health and Communities Directorate Plan 2024/25		
Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024/25		
Work Programming Session for 2024/25		

Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

30 th July 2024		
Item	Purpose	Outcome
Town Hall Revised Business Plan		
Public Health and Communities Directorate Performance Report Q1		
Economy and Place Directorate Performance Report Q1		
Draft Work Programme 2024/25		

10 th September 2024		
Item	Purpose	Outcome
Draft Greater Manchester Nature Network		

30 th October 2024		
Item	Purpose	Outcome
Public Health and Communities Directorate Performance Report Q2		
Economy and Place Directorate Performance Report Q2		

Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

28 th January 2025		
Item	Purpose	Outcome
Public Health and Communities Directorate Performance Report Q3		
Economy and Place Directorate Performance Report Q3		

4 th March 2025		
Item	Purpose	Outcome

Topics to consider

1. That a paper be presented to outline plans for parking requirements in the town centre / Town Hall (From meeting in Jan 2024)
2. That the Committee be provided with the Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership action plan and performance framework (i.e.: how success look like) as soon as the documents are available and comparative data with other GM Councils (From meeting in Jan 2024) - report to be presented by the end of 2024
3. YourTrust – actions and benefits for each Township (From meeting in Mar 2024)
4. Environmental Management – performance compared to other Council in GM; to receive a report on the outcomes of the work of the flytipping working group by the end of 2024 (From meeting in March 2024)
5. Town Centre Vacancies and Regeneration Strategy (Item postponed from March 2024)
6. Following on from the work of the Housing Task and Finish Group, a meeting to take place between the Chair of HSCOS, the Chair of CRE, Director of Public Health, Director of Health and Integration, Head of Housing (People) to discuss how teams can

Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

work closely together on cross overs matters concerning mental health and housing. Recommendations from officers be presented late in 2024/25.

7. Atom Valley - a meeting to take place between the Chair of CRE and the Director of Economy and Place to discuss how CRE can support the developments of these plans.
8. March 2025 – agencies annual reporting – YourTrust (focus on communities), Environmental Management and Highways
9. Public Health and Communities Directorate Plan 2024/25 - Progress against Action 3 – Inequalities Framework - the co-producing of the Inequality Framework for Rochdale to support the suitability assessment tool, plus Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) - deliver year 3 changing futures programme to support multiple disadvantaged groups.
10. Public Health and Communities Directorate Plan 2024/25 - Progress against Action 6 - the Neighbourhoods plan – neighbourhood partnership and how to develop links with the five townships (Formalise the structures, by which the Developing Neighbourhood Partnership model, can support Townships, in delivering against the Council Plan Priorities);
11. Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024/25 – Progress against Action 4 – Create Vibrant Town Centres
12. Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024/25 – Progress against Action 6 - Take positive action in response to the Housing Emergency
13. Economy and Place Directorate Plan 2024/25 – Progress against Action 1 – Sub-action reducing digital inequalities
14. Housing standards (possible task and finish group) - tbc
15. Climate Emergency Scrutiny Group – meetings to take place on 25th Sep 2024 and on 19th Feb 2025

Agenda Item 11

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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