



Date of Meeting	28th September 2021
Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainability, Cabinet Member for Communities and Co-operation, Cabinet Member for Environment and Facilities, Cabinet Member for Highways and Housing
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Public/Private Document	Public

Neighbourhoods Directorate Plans 2021-22: Quarter 1 Performance Update

Executive Summary

1. To report progress at the end of Quarter 1 (1st April – 30th June 2021) towards achievement of the targets contained in the Neighbourhoods Directorate Plan 2021-22.

Recommendation

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

Reason for Recommendation

3. 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.
 - 3.1 The Quarter 1 progress report for the Neighbourhoods Directorate is attached at Appendix 1. Actions within each appendix have been colour coded in accordance with the following criteria
 - 3.2 **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.

Key Points for Consideration

4. Neighbourhoods Directorate Plan 2021-22 Progress

Performance Overview

- 4.1 100% (23) of the actions included in the Directorate Plan 2021-22 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

- 4.2 The Climate Change Strategy and a comprehensive delivery plan are being finalised and will be taken to the Climate Emergency Working Group for agreement in July. This will then be taken through the Council's governance processes for final sign off with an aim for this to be in September. A bid process is now in place for capital funding of climate related projects with some of this money allocated for a new asset management system and staff resources to drive forward the climate change agenda (Energy Officer, Programme Manager and Woodland and Natural Capital Project Officer). Projects are currently being scoped around renewable energy, decarbonisation of the public estate and natural environment in partnership with GMCA.

- 4.3 A draft digital strategy has been shared widely with various stakeholders and partners including health, care, ICT, Libraries, etc. The strategy has been developed and informed by the feedback and the GM digital blueprint. Further engagement is required to finalise the content and to develop the accompanying action plan. It will also be necessary to establish a Board that will have oversight of implementation. There is a requirement to undertake consultation with the public to understand the digital/digital exclusion position in the borough. The Council is linked into a Cooperative Council's Innovation Network Policy Lab to support us with this work. There are currently some resource issues in driving forward the digital agenda.
- 4.4 A draft domestic abuse needs assessment has been completed by Public Health and Community Safety which will help inform a new domestic abuse strategy. Draft recommendations have been made. The needs assessment is to be reviewed and finalised by panel, with consultation with Joint Leadership Team, prior to finalising.
- 4.5 There has been good attendance and contribution to monthly "Community & Faith Group" meetings to address insight, concerns and future planning for integration of faith and non-faith communities across the borough. There has been RBC representation since 2020 at fortnightly Grassroots gathering meetings with communities developing appropriate partnership actions with stakeholders to address any unmet needs and mitigate emerging community concerns e.g. ASB, underage sales, speeding, vandalism, criminal exploitation etc. Relevant insight from both of these meetings are escalated to relevant stakeholders for action with updates provided to the community at future meetings allowing increased resident/stakeholder engagement and satisfaction.
- 4.6 As part of the action to review the Council's community response to the pandemic; two review sessions have taken place with council colleagues around lessons learnt from the pandemic with discussion around best practice and issues that will assist long-term community recovery. Information from these sessions have been fed back to Joint Senior Leadership Team and the portfolio holder. The Council has been shortlisted in the MJ Awards under the Community Heroes category for the work of the Covid-19 Community Response team.
- 4.7 Work is underway as part of the action to initiate an accelerated housing programme. There is ongoing progress to identify sites; with development briefs being prepared for those appropriate sites by the Principal Planning officer working in conjunction with Strategic Housing and Estates.
- 4.8 As part of the sub-action to promote and celebrate businesses who pledge to be Eco-Businesses, the website has been updated and re-launched as the scheme was paused due to the pandemic. Discussions are now taking place with a view to promoting wider and adding to the scheme an 'individual pledge' aspect. There has been active follow up on contacts made by businesses interested when the scheme was paused due to the pandemic.

Alternatives Considered

4.9 Not applicable

Costs and Budget Summary

5. None

Risk and Policy Implications

6. None

Consultation

7. Not required

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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8. Appendix 1 - Neighbourhoods Directorate Plan 2021-22 Q1	Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1XU
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