



Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
7 September 2023

ADUR & WORTHING COUNCILS

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

Interview with the Adur Cabinet Member for Adur Homes and Customer Services

Report by the Director for Sustainability and Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

1.1 This report sets out background information on the Portfolio of the Adur Cabinet Member for Adur Homes and Customer Services to enable the Committee to consider and question the Cabinet Member on issues within his portfolio and any other issues which the Cabinet Member is involved in connected with the work of the Council and the Adur communities.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee consider any representations from the Cabinet Member on the work within his Portfolio and other issues which the Cabinet Member is involved in and question the Cabinet Member on this and recommend any suggested action or make appropriate comments to the Cabinet Member for his consideration.

3. Context and Purpose of Scrutiny

- 3.1 As part of its Work Programme for 2023/24, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) have agreed to interview the Adur and Worthing Cabinet Members on their priorities for 2023/24.
- 3.2 As part of its fact finding/investigative role, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the roles and responsibilities of the Adur Cabinet Member for Adur Homes and Customer Services, Councillor Carson Albury. It is part of the Scrutiny role to fact find/investigate in the form of questions and JOSC is asked to direct questions to the Cabinet Member on any issues involving the Cabinet Member and also issues relating to his portfolio.
- 3.3 The Committee is entitled to ask for further investigation into items where it may not be satisfied with the progress as described and can recommend action or make comments to the Cabinet Member for consideration.
- 3.4 The Cabinet Member was previously interviewed by JOSC at its meeting on 22 September 2022 - The minute extract (JOSC 28/22-23) which includes the detail of the previous discussion and previous questions from that interview is set out here [JOSC minutes 22/9/22](#) Individual decisions made by the Cabinet Members can be found from the following link: [Individual Member Executive Decisions](#)

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 The Adur Cabinet Member for Adur Homes and Customer Services has responsibility for the following:-
- Customer contacts and services, including Help Points.
 - Housing and Council Tax benefits (Adur).
 - Housing - Housing Revenue Account, ACF Tenants' Services, anti-social behaviour / neighbourhood disputes in relation to tenants, sheltered housing, leasehold administration, Adur Housing Voice, Adur Talkback, Choice Based Lettings, Community Alarm, Grounds Maintenance and Building Cleaning, Adur Homes Service, Temporary Accommodation Management.
 - Housing strategy and housing enabling role; affordable housing provision; housing register need options and advice.
 - Housing - non Housing Revenue Account - including homelessness and advice (prevention and management), private sector housing and other housing services - choice based lettings, grants (disability and housing).

- Adur Homes Board.

4.2 JOSC is requested to ask questions of the Cabinet Member based on his responsibilities outlined in paragraph 4.1 including any high level strategic issues relating to the Councils and our communities.

5. Engagement and Communication

5.1 The JOSC Chairs and Vice-Chairs and the Cabinet Member have been consulted on the proposals contained in this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications to consider within this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 JOSC is responsible for holding the Cabinet Members to account, reviewing their work and decisions and in accordance with the procedures outlined within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Councils' constitution, can request Cabinet Members to attend its meetings.

7.2 Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA 1999) contains a general duty on a best value authority to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

7.3 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 empowers the Council to do anything an individual can do apart from that which is specifically prohibited by pre-existing legislation.

Background Papers

Priorities for Adur District Council agreed by Joint Strategic Sub-Committee 29
September 2022 - [New priorities](#)

Our Plan - A three year framework for Adur and Worthing Councils
[Our Plan](#)

Officer Contact Details:-

Mark Lowe

Scrutiny and Risk Officer

Tel:01903 221009

mark.lowe@adur-worthing.gov.uk

Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Matter considered and issues within the Cabinet Member Portfolio will impact on some sections of the community and those in housing need.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

4. Governance

Matter considered. JOSC is responsible for holding the Cabinet Members to account, reviewing their work and decisions and in accordance with the procedures outlined within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Councils' constitution, can request Cabinet Members to attend its meetings.