



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

Joint Leaders interview

Report by the Director for Digital & Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

1.1 This report sets out background information on the Portfolios of the Adur and Worthing Leaders to enable the Committee to consider and question the Leaders on issues within their portfolios and any high-level strategic issues which the Leaders are involved in connected with the work of the Councils and the Adur and Worthing communities. This interview also provides the Committee with the opportunity to discuss with the Leaders how the Councils have been responding to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee consider any representations from the Leaders on the work within their Portfolios, other high-level strategic issues and the Council response to the Covid-19 pandemic which the Leaders are involved in and question the Leaders on this and recommend any suggested action or make appropriate comments to the Leaders for their consideration.

3. Context

- 3.1 As part of its Work Programme for 2020/21, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) have agreed to interview the Leaders on their priorities for 2020/21 and to discuss how the Councils have been responding to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 3.2 As part of their fact finding/investigative role, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the roles and responsibilities of the Leaders. 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 Leaders on any high level strategic issues involving the Leaders and also issues relating to their portfolios, however, this will not extend to day to day Council matters.
- 3.3 The Committee are entitled to ask for further investigation into items where they may not be satisfied with the progress as described.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 Both Leaders have responsibility for the following:-
- Overall policy and strategy (Vision and priorities);
 - External relations, including complaints management, marketing and promotion;
 - Reputation management, including risk (policy);
 - Performance management, including improvement plans;
 - Media and communications (internal and external)
 - Democratic Services including committee management
 - Electoral Services within the remit of the Executive
 - Member Services
 - Chairman of the Council and Civic matters (Adur)
 - Mayor of the Borough and Civic matters (Worthing)
 - Partnership working (Lead)
 - Public consultation, including community engagement
 - Greater Brighton Economic Board
 - Council insurance matters (Adur)
 - Energy management and sustainability (Worthing)
 - Devolution
- 4.2 JOSC is requested to ask questions of the two Leaders based on their 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 JOSOC Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen 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 JOSOC is responsible for holding the Executive 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 Executive 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

Platforms for our Places: Going Further

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some issues contained within the Leader Portfolios are related to economic issues and impact.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some issues within the Leader Portfolios do impact on the communities.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some of the Portfolio areas do impact on access or participation.

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 and no direct issues identified.