



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
26 November 2020  
Agenda Item

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

## **Executive Members for Resources interview**

### **Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability and Resources**

#### **Executive Summary**

##### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This report sets out background information on the Portfolios of the Adur and Worthing Executive Members for Resources to enable the Committee to consider and question the Executive Members on issues within their portfolios and any other issues which the Executive Members are involved in connected with the work of the Councils and the Adur and Worthing communities.

##### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Committee consider any representations from the Executive Members on the work within their Portfolios, priorities and areas of focus; and

2.2 That the Committee question the Executive Members on the progress being made to achieve the priorities within their Portfolios and make appropriate comments or recommend suggested action to the Executive Members for their consideration.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1 As part of its Work Programme for 2020/21, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) has agreed to interview the Leaders and all Executive Members on their priorities for 2020/21.
- 3.2 As part of its fact finding/investigative role, JOSC is asked to consider the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Members for Resources. 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 Executive Members on any issues within the responsibility of the Adur and Worthing Councils that relate to their Portfolios.
- 3.3 The Committee is entitled to ask for further investigation into items where it may not be satisfied with the progress as described.

### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 The Executive Members are responsible for the following issues:-

#### **Adur Executive Member for Resources**

- Budgets (including the overall allocation of Revenue and Capital), external funding.
- Capital programme.
- Local taxation (benefit fraud (Adur), non-domestic rates).
- Property and asset management, facilities management, estates (including Southwick Square shops), property terriers, corporate property (not in other portfolios) and non-housing property repairs.
- ICT (client side), telephony and eGovernment - Data Protection, Freedom of Information, information security and web team. Includes the CenSus IT Partnership.
- Procurement, including contracts.
- Personnel and staffing (where Executive functions), including organisational development, occupational health and learning and development of staff.
- Other central support services.
- Internal Audit and audit fees.
- Digital transformation programme.
- Treasury Management including investments, loans, leasing and banking matters.

## **Worthing Executive Member for Resources**

- Budgets (including the overall allocation of revenue and capital), external funding.
- Capital programme.
- Local taxation (fraud investigation (Worthing)).
- Treasury management, including insurance, investments, loans, leasing and banking matters.
- Procurement, including contracts.
- Personnel and staffing (where executive functions); including organisational development, occupational health, payroll and learning and development of staff.
- Other central support services.
- Internal Audit and audit fees.
- Property and Asset Management, including the Town Hall and Portland House sites; non-housing property repairs, corporate property, terriers, property not included in other portfolios, estates management.

- 4.2 JOSC is requested to ask questions of the two Executive Members based on their responsibilities outlined in Paragraph 4.1 above. Further information on work strands connected to the Portfolios can be found in the commitments and activities of 'Platforms for our Places: Going Further' <https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/media/Media,156442.smx.pdf> which sets out the Councils' role in developing places and communities over the next three years (2020 - 2022) and also the 'And Then' document - Bouncing back in Post Pandemic Adur & Worthing <https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/media/Media,157351.smx.pdf>

## **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 The JOSC 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 JOSC 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 2020 - 2022'

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## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

#### **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 and no direct issues identified. JOSC is responsible for holding the Executive Members to account and the process for this is set out in the JOSC Procedure Rules in the Constitution.