



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

**Interview with Executive Members for Resources**

**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 information or representations provided from the Executive Members on the work within their Portfolios, priorities and areas of focus; and
- 2.2 That the Committee ask questions of 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 2021/22, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) has agreed to interview the Leaders and all Executive Members on their priorities for 2021/22.
- 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 or make recommendations 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 delegated issues:-
- Budgets (including the overall allocation of Revenue and Capital), external funding.
  - Capital programme.
  - Local taxation (benefit fraud, 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. (Adur)
  - 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. (Worthing)
  - ICT (client side), telephony and eGovernment - Data Protection, Freedom of Information, information security and web team. Includes the CenSus IT Partnership (Adur).
  - 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.

- 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 with the Portfolios can be found in the commitments and activities of ['Platforms for our Places: Going Further 2020-2022'](#) which sets out the Councils role in developing places and communities and also the ['And Then' document - Bouncing back in post pandemic Adur and Worthing](#) which sets out the Place based activities and interventions that Adur and Worthing Councils will take to enable the communities to thrive, prosper, be healthy and resilient during and after the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 The JOSC Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and the Executive Members 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' constitutions, 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 Councils to do anything an individual can do apart from that which is specifically prohibited by pre-existing legislation.

## **Background Papers**

- Information on Executive Members and their Portfolios is included on the Adur & Worthing Councils website;
- 'Platforms for our Places: Going Further 2020-2022';
- 'And Then' document - 'Bouncing back in Post pandemic Adur & Worthing - Place based activities and interventions that Adur & Worthing Councils will take to enable our communities to thrive, prosper, be healthy and resilient following the pandemic of Spring 2020.

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## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but issues contained in the Executive Member Portfolios can impact on and influence the local economies.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

Matter considered. No direct issues identified but issues contained in the Executive Member Portfolios can improve social value.

#### **2.2 Equality Issues**

Matter considered. No direct issues identified.

#### **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

Matter considered. 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 in the report

### **4. Governance**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified in the report. JOSC is responsible for holding the Executive Members to account on issues for which the Councils are responsible and matters that are contained within their Portfolio areas and the process for this is set out in the JOSC Procedure Rules in the Constitution.