

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5

Report To: Policy & Resources Committee Date: 26 March 2024

Report By: Chief Executive Report No: PR/11/24/RB/KM

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Subject: Policy & Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/24

Performance Report

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 □For Decision □For Information/Noting

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on the progress made in the delivery of the Policy and Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.
- 1.3 This is the second performance report on the Committee Plan, which is coming to the end of its first year. It provides information on the delivery of the Action Plan as at mid-February 2024 and the latest performance data for KPIs.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee consider the progress made in the delivery of the Policy and Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.
- 2.2 The Committee is also asked to note that a refreshed Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee for approval.

Louise Long
Chief Executive

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans 2023/26 are a key component of the Council's refreshed strategic planning and performance management framework. The Committee Plan enables scrutiny of:
 - Strategic activity within the Committee remit; and
 - How the Committee is helping to deliver the Council Plan outcomes.
- 3.2 The Policy and Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 was approved on 23rd May 2023. Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan has also been approved by the Environment and Regeneration Committee and the Education and Communities Committee.
- 3.3 The Committee Plans will be refreshed annually to remove completed actions and capture new strategic activity and risk.

3.4 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

3.5 This is the second performance report on the new Committee Plan and covers the progress made to mid-February 2024. It includes an update on the status of the action plan and KPIs. A summary of performance is provided below with the full performance report provided in the Appendix.

Delivery and Improvement Action Plan 2023/26

- 3.6 The following actions / sub-actions are now complete:
 - The Council Plan and Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans are in place.
 - An amended local Non-Domestic Rate Empty Relief Policy and a Second Homes Council Tax levy policy were approved on 6th February 2024.
 - The 2024/25 Council Budget and Council Tax rate were agreed at a special meeting of the Council on 29th February 2024.
 - An Amended scheme of Establishment for Community Councils was approved and adopted on 7th December 2023. The Community Council elections have also taken place.
 - The Alcohol Licencing Policy Statement was approved and adopted by the Inverclyde Licencing Board on 26th October 2023.
 - The Coaching and Mentoring Scheme has now been implemented.
 - The Council has been awarded Equally Safe accreditation.
 - The refresh of the performance appraisal process is finished and a new initiative 'Positive Conversations' has been implemented.
 - The contract backlog has been addressed and related improvements following a 'lessons learned' session have been implemented.
 - A Policy review schedules has been developed.
 - Learning and development arrangements and the corporate e-learning induction have been reviewed and updated.
 - The review of management capacity within the HR&OD team has been completed and reported to this Committee.
 - The revaluation of Heritage Assets has been completed, in line with the Audit Action.
 - Embedded cyclical revaluations and indexations of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE) in line with audit requirement was completed as part of the 2022/23 accounts and is now embedded in operational practice.

- 3.7 There has been slippage in the following actions/ sub-action:
 - Development of Actions Plans and Key Performance Indicators to support the delivery of the Partnership Plan. The delivery structures will be confirmed at the March meeting of the Alliance Board with the action plan development led by these groups.
 - Development of Service Plans for each Head of Service to support the Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans. One Service Plan is currently in draft form and will be finalised now that the Head of Regeneration, Planning and Public Protection has started in post. All other Service Plans have been considered by the CMT.
 - Implementation of Victoria Forms within HR and explore other potential processes within HR for review and automation. Forms that are fully implemented include Bank Mandate, Termination, Change of Circumstances, Personal information, Interview Outcome and Entry to Service. Sickness notification and certification is currently in the testing phase. Vacancy management is in development and planned for testing in April 2024. Good progress has been made, however the roll out has not been as fast as originally hoped.
 - Streamline the approach to obtaining references for new employees. A new process has been developed, including move to verbal references in first instance. An evaluation of this new approach has been carried out and proposals for going forward will be presented to the CMT in March 2024.
- 3.8 The following actions / sub-actions have not yet started:
 - Conduct a review of the new performance management arrangements. This will take place once the first full year of the new planning cycle is complete.
 - Implementation of the amended Non-Domestic Rate Empty Relief Policy and Second Homes Council Tax Levy Policy. These policies will take effect from 1April 2024.
 - Refresh of the Council's Digital and ICT Strategies, to be adopted by P&R during 2024. The work on this has started with an overall completion date of 31st October 2024.
 - The feasibility of introducing an HR&OD Helpdesk model will be investigated following the appointment of new postholder within the HR&OD team.
- 3.9 All remaining actions within the action plan are on track.

3.10 KPI Performance

Performance in quarter 3 was on target (green status) for the following measures:

- Total days lost due to sickness absence.
- Number of complaints received per 1,000 population.
- The number of data breaches notified to the Information Commissioners Office.
- The percentage of FOIs and EIRS responded to on time.
- 3.11 Performance was below target, but within a 5% tolerance (amber status), for the following KPIs:
 - Council Tax in-year collection was slightly below target. The projected reduction in inyear Council tax collection has been reported throughout 2023/24. The main reason appears to be linked to on-going pressures on household finances and changes to national Debt Recovery regulations.
- 3.12 Performance was 5% or more below target (red status) for the following KPIs:
 - The number of corporate training courses attended has fallen below target. Attendance at training courses will naturally fluctuate throughout the year in response to legislative requirements, new policy developments etc. Whilst the number of training courses attended

has fallen below the quarterly target, the cumulative total of attendances for the year April - December 2023 is on target.

4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to note the progress that has been achieved in delivering the actions within the Policy and Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.
- 4.2 The Committee is also asked to note that the annual refresh of the Committee Plan will be presented to next meeting of this Committee on 4th June 2024, along with a year-end progress report on performance in 2023/24.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk	Х	
Human Resources		Х
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)	Х	
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		Х
Environmental & Sustainability		Х
Data Protection		Х

5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.3 Legal/Risk

There are no legal implications associated with this report, whilst the key Committee risks are highlighted within the full Committee Plan 2023/26.

5.4 Human Resources

There are no human resources implications associated with this report.

5.5 Strategic

The Policy and Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 directly supports the new Council Plan 2023/28 and is closely aligned to the delivery of the Council Plan outcomes.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

Strategic Theme: People

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR001 Partnership Plan 2023/33	Implementation of a new Partnership Plan 2023/33 for Inverclyde Alliance, underpinned by an effective governance,	Development of Actions Plans and Key Performance Indicators to support the delivery of the Partnership Plan.	31-Oct-2023	Slippage	The updated delivery structure will be considered by the Alliance Board at its meeting in March 2024. Action plan development will be led these groups.
	delivery and reporting framework.	Further development of the locality planning model for Inverclyde, linked to the Community Council review.	31-Mar-2024	On track	Proposals for the development of Locality Planning will be discussed with the Alliance Board in March 2024. This builds on the successes of the current models and provide improvement.
CMTE/ PR002 Council Plan 2023/28	Implementation of a new Council Plan 2023/28, supported by new Committee Delivery and	Inverclyde Council Plan 2023/28 given formal approval by The Inverclyde Council.	20-Apr-2023	Complete	The Council Plan was approved by full Council on 20th April 2023.
	Improvement Plans.	The Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans are approved by their respective Committee.	31-May-2023	Complete	The Environment & Regeneration Committee Plan was approved on 4 May 2023, the Education & Communities Committee Plan was approved on 9th May 2023 and the Policy and Resources Committee Plan approved on 23rd May 2023.
		Development of Service Plans for each Head of Service to support the Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans.	31-Oct-2023	Slippage	Five Service Plans have been reviewed by the CMT. The remaining Service Plan is currently in draft form and will be finalised and reviewed by the CMT once the new Head of Service is in post.
		Carry out a review of the new performance management arrangements by the Corporate Management Team.	31-Mar-2024	Not yet started	This will be carried out once the first full year of the new planning cycle has been completed.

Strategic Theme: Place

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR003	Development of new local policies in relation to both non-domestic rates empty	Development of a local Non- Domestic Rate Empty Relief Policy.	30-Sep-2023	Complete	A report to the Policy and Resources Committee on 6 th February 2024 considered the proposed Policy amendments and the amended policy was approved.
Developmen t of new local policies	property relief scheme and 2nd Homes Council Tax levy.	Implementation of new Non- Domestic Rate Empty Relief Policy.	01-Apr-2024	Not yet started	Amendments agreed for implementation in 2024-25.
policies	icies	Development of a 2nd Homes Council Tax Levy Policy.	31-Jan-2024	Complete	Secondary legislation laid in November 2023 permits a limited degree of flexibility with Council Tax on second homes. Proposed policy amendments were developed and subject to public consultation and the amended Policy approved by the Policy and Resources Committee on 6th February 2024.
		Implementation of the new 2nd Homes Council Tax Levy Policy	01-Apr-2024	Not yet started	Comes into effect from 1 April 2024.
CMTE/ PR004 Scheme of Establishme nt for Community	Update and adoption of the Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils, with those Community Councils formed following elections.	Drafting of, and engagement on, new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils, including with residents, Community Councils and Elected Members.	14-Nov-2023	Complete	The stage 3 consultation concluded on 16 November 2023, with a report to The Inverclyde Council on 7 th December 2023.
Councils		Adoption of new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils.	14-Nov-2023	Complete	The amended scheme was approved and adopted at a special meeting of The Inverclyde Council on 7 th December 2023.
		Elections held for Community Councils.	14-Dec-2023	Complete Complete	Nominations for the election of Community Councillors closed on 7 th February with the result that 9 Community Councils have been established or reestablished, with 2 Community Councils not established due to not enough nominations being received.

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR005 Alcohol Licensing Policy Statement	The adoption of a new Alcohol Licensing Policy Statement by Inverclyde Licensing Board.	Drafting of, and engagement on, new Alcohol Licensing Policy Statement, including with residents, Inverclyde Licensing Forum, Inverclyde Licensing Board, Police Scotland and NHS/ADP.	30-Nov-2023	Complete	The public consultation closed on 24th October 2023, and approved and adopted by Inverclyde Licensing Board on 26th October.
		Adoption of new Alcohol Licensing Policy Statement by Inverclyde Licensing Board.	30-Nov-2023	Complete	As per above update. Adopted on 26 th October 2023.

Strategic Theme: Performance

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
PR006 final year and Organ OD Strategy Developm	Implementation of the final year of the People and Organisational Development (POD) Strategy 2020/23 and	Implementation of the Coaching and Mentoring Scheme, as set out in the POD 2020/23.	31-Dec-2023	Complete	The scheme was approved by the CMT in November 2023 and has now been implemented. Applications for both mentors and mentees were open from 8th January until 4th February 2024. Matching exercise has been carried out between mentors and mentees.
	development of a new Strategy for 2024/26.	Achievement of Equally Safe Accreditation.	31-Jul-2023	Complete	Equally Safe accreditation has been achieved, with notification of this received on 27th October 2023.
	Refresh and update of Performance Appraisal processes.	30-Sep-2023	Complete	The refresh is now complete and the next stage is the roll out. The Performance Appraisal policy has been replaced by 'Let's Talk – A Positive Conversation'. Three information training sessions ran throughout October.	
		In consultation with key stakeholders, identify and develop new initiatives for the POD 2024/26.	31-Mar-2024	On track	Consultation on the new POD has been carried out and the new POD will be considered by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 26th March 2024.
CMTE/ PR007 Multi-year	Development of a multi- year budget for Inverclyde Council, which receives	Approval of the Revenue Budget for the period 2024/26.	31-Mar-2024	Complete	A Special Council meeting was held on 1 st February 2024 to agree a number of significant matters in principle and to progress a second consultation on savings and Council Tax.
budget Co	Committee approval.	Approval of the Capital Budget for the period 2024/27.	31-Mar-2024	Complete	A medium-term programme covering 2024/28 was reported to the MBWG and agreed to support the use of £4.4m from reserves to address estimated funding gap.
					The 2024/25 Council Budget and Council Tax rate were agreed at a special meeting of the Council on 29th February 2024.

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR008	Strengthen the approach to asset accounting and	Embedded cyclical revaluations and indexations in line with audit requirements.	30-Sep-2023	Complete	Completed as part of the 2022/23 accounts and is now an operational task.
Asset Accounting and Reporting	reporting.	Revaluation of Heritage assets in line with Audit Action.	30-Jun-2023	Complete	1st stage 100% complete. Valuations completed and reported to Audit Committee. Phase 2 due 2 June 2024
		Compliance with IFRS 16.	30-Jun-2024	On track	Developing internal spreadsheet to track relevant leases.
CMTE/ PR009 Modern- isation of the Council	Delivery of projects associated with modernisation of the Council.	Have 4 Digital Modernisation projects approved by the DMPB/P&R and implemented.	31-Mar-2024	On track	This Committee approved four new projects on 15 th August 2023. Procurement action has been completed and project initiation and implementation has begun as below: • Freshdesk Service Desk Renewal – Project underway, cloud-based system is in place and configuration and implementation started. Estimated Project Completion June 2024 • Verint CMS Upgrade – Project initiation meetings complete and supplier resource allocated. Estimated project Completion September 2024 • WorkPro Complaints Handling System – Procurement complete – awaiting supplier resource for implementation. • Schools Catering Contract Refresh – On Schedule for completion during Easter Break
		Continue delivery of the Council's Digital Strategy to deliver better services for customers and citizens, including through Channel Shift.	31-Mar-2024	On track	The Modernisation Programme Board was established in May 2023. A development session with the Improvement Service and front-line managers was held on 29 th August 2023 to identify areas for digital improvement. Business Cases have been developed, or are in development, for a number of service proposals.

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
		Continue delivery of the Council's ICT Strategy to support the changing face of the Council, including through progression of migration towards a cloud-based service including a hybrid telephony solution.	31-Mar-2024	On track	The ICT Strategy identified 4 key action areas: 1. Asset Management Programme & Cloud Migration Strategy; 2. Service Provision; 3. Information Security 4. Procurement Strategy Good progress is being made across all 4 Action Areas, with regular reports progress to this Committee
		Refresh the Council's Digital and ICT Strategies, to be adopted by P&R during 2024.	31-Oct-2024	Not yet started	Initial discovery workshop with team members and development of wider Digital and Customer Service Strategy held on Feb 28 th 2024.
	Conduct a review of the Human Resources, Organisational Development and Payroll IT systems and transactional processes.	Monitor implementation of Victoria Forms and explore other potential processes for review and automation.	31-Dec-2023	Slippage	Forms that are fully implemented include Bank Mandate, Termination, Change of Circumstances, , Personal information, Interview Outcome and Entry to Service. Sickness notification and certification is currently in the testing phase. Vacancy management is in development and planned for testing in April 2024.
		Maximise functionality of current CHRIS 21 system and consider further options to support service delivery.	30-Jun-2024	On track	Work with COSLA has continued on the use of Talentlink to generate contracts with the testing of contract templates. Further application, including business case was presented to the Digital Modernisation Board.
		Address contract backlog and implement improved processes and monitoring.	31_Dec-2023	Complete	Lessons learned session has taken place and related improvements implemented.
		Consider HR+OD Helpdesk model to filter and support responses to phone calls and emails.	31-Mar-2024	Not yet started	This will be progressed following the appointment of a new postholder.

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR011 Recruitment Processes	Improve the recruitment and appointment processes.	Streamline the approach to obtaining references for new employees.	31-Jan-2024	Slippage	A new process has been developed, including move to verbal references in first instance. An evaluation of new approach has been carried out and proposals for going forward will be presented to the CMT in March 2024.
		Review the approval process.	30-Jun-2024	On track	Mapping of the approval process has been undertaken and a report will be presented to the CMT.
		Develop onboarding protocols/process.	31-Mar-2024	On track	A change of approach for following up references has been implemented. Improved monitoring for contract issue implementation have been put in place. Face to face corporate inductions now resumed. The corporate e-learning induction content has also been reviewed.
CMTE/ PR012	Develop a framework for policy review, update	Develop a policy review schedule.	31-Dec-2023	Complete	A policy review schedule has been developed.
Policy Review Framework	of policies as required and improvement in employee communications on policies.	Engage with Services and develop a programme to promote key policies.	31-Mar-2024	On track	Ongoing promotion of existing and new policies took place during January focusing on mentoring and coaching, followed by Positive Conversations.
CMTE/ PR013	Review of the provision of learning and development activity.	Further invest in corporate knowledge and skills development.	30-Jun-2024	On track	Employees have commenced professional qualifications.
Learning and Development		Review current learning and development arrangements and update corporate elearning induction.	30-Jun-2024	Complete	Corporate e-learning induction content has been reviewed and updated. In addition, a review of the face-to-face induction sessions has been carried out and sessions scheduled every two months for the rest of the year.

Code & Title	Action	Sub-action	Due Date	Current Status	Progress Commentary
CMTE/ PR014	Review the capacity and resilience within the HR&OD Service.	Review the management capacity within the HR+OD Team	30-Nov-23		Review completed and approval to increase employee resource given by the Policy and Resources Committee in November.
HR&OD Capacity and Resilience		Establishment of key posts / development roles to support service delivery	31-Dec-2024	On track	Post advertised and recruitment underway.
		Review roles, remits and designations within HR+OD Service	30-Jun-2024		Following the appointment of new postholders, including Service Manager and Team Leader roles, remits and designations will be further developed to minimise single person dependencies, support succession planning and ensure that there is roles are up to date. HR Support Team terminology incorporated in establishment of new roles.

Ac	tion Status
*	Cancelled / not delivered
-	Not started
	Slippage
	On track
②	Complete

The measures below have been added to the KPI scorecard following the Elected Member KPI workshop and the latest data provided.

Title	Q4 2022/23 Value	Q1 2023/24 Value	Q2 2023/24 Value	Q3 2023/24 Value	2023/24 Target	Latest Note
Number of properties in receipt of Empty Property Relief	-	-	129	142		2022/23 figure was 187. This is a 'data only' PI as performance is influenced by wider economic conditions outwith the control of the Council.
Value (£) of Empty Property Relief	-	-	£ 263,367	£263,822		2023/23 figure was £303,665. This is a 'data only' PI as performance is influenced by wider economic conditions outwith the control of the Council.

Quarterly service performance data is provided for the following indicators.

Title	Q4 2022/23 Value	Q1 2023/24 Value	Q2 2023/24 Value	Q3 2023/24 Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	Latest Note
Council tax in year collection level	95.9%	27.6%	53.3%	80.2%	80.8%			1	The end of year target is 95%. Performance at the end of quarter 3, 2022 was 83.3%.
Invoices paid within 30 days (%)	95.82%	97.79%	96.4%	95.9%	95.5%		•	•	
Total days lost due to sickness absence (days lost per full time employee)	-	2.85 days	2.18 days	2.81 days	9 days		-	•	The full year figure is the number of days lost during the year. The cumulative total at the end of Q3 is 7.8 days.
Employee Turnover	-	3.04%	5.55%	2.13%	10%		-	•	Quarterly performance long trend will appear following the addition of more data. Methodology has changed recently changed to capture all leavers, including mutiposts. Quarterly data has been calculated in same way.
Corporate Training Courses Attended	-	149	196	50	125		-	•	Attendance at training courses will naturally fluctuate during the year e.g. attendance in previous quarters was higher due to mandatory Fire Safety Awareness Training being carried out. Whilst performance is below target in the quarter, the total number of attendances is on track to meet its target at the year-end (500).
SOCITM Accessibility Score (website overall accessibility score)	94	94	95	94	95			•	A score of 90 and above is regarded as 'excellent'.

Title	Q4 2022/23 Value	Q1 2023/24 Value	Q2 2023/24 Value	Q3 2023/24 Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	Latest Note
No. of complaints received (per 1,000 population)	-	0.66	1.186	0.795	1		-		The overall target for the year is no more than 4 per 100,000 population.
Th number of Data Breaches notified to the Information Commissioners Office	-	0	0	0	0.5		-		Quarterly performance long trend will appear following the addition of more data.
% of FOIs and EIRs responded to on time	91.52%	92.27%	95.45%	96.2%	92%		-	1	
Digital transactions via the CSC Portal	-	75%	81%	75%	75%		-	•	Digital transactions have been increasing since 2018, when annual performance was 6.5%.
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PI Status						
	Alert					
	Warning					
②	ОК					
?	Unknown					
4	Data Only					

	Long Term Trends					
1	Improving					
-	No Change					
•	Getting Worse					

