# **South Hams Overview and Scrutiny Committee**



Title:	Agenda						
Date:	Thursday, 3rd November, 2022						
Time:	2.00 pm						
Venue:	Council Chamber	- Follaton House					
Full Members:		<b>Chairman</b> Cllr Thom	nas				
		Vice Chairman Cllr Smer	don				
	Members:	Cllr Austen Cllr Rose Cllr Birch Cllr Rowe Cllr Chown Cllr Spencer Cllr Jackson Cllr Sweett Cllr Jones Cllr McKay					
Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation:	pecuniary interes interest which the exception for sen	eminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable est not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary hey have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the ensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary					
Committee administrator:	Democratic.Service	ces@swdevon.gov.uk					

		Page No
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Minutes	1 - 4
	to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Committee held 29 September 2022;	
3.	Urgent Business	
	brought forward at the discretion of the Chairman;	
4.	Division of Agenda	
	to consider whether the discussion of any item of business is likely to lead to the disclosure of exempt information;	
5.	Declarations of Interest	
	In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests and Non-Registerable Interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting;	
6.	Public Forum Public Forum	5 - 6
	A period of up to 15 minutes is available to deal with issues raised by the public;	
7.	Devon Building Control Partnership - Mr Nigel Hunt to attend and respond to Member Questions	7 - 16
	Extract of the Devon Building Control Q1 Operational Plan to be read in conjunction with this agenda item	
8.	Fusion - Biannual Report (to include Health Referrals and Usage by Ward)	17 - 38
9.	2021/22 Performance Management	39 - 58
10.	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	(a) Electric Vehicle Charging	
11.	2022/23 Committee Work Programme: Latest Version	59 - 62

 $\hbox{(a)} \quad Formal\,Request\,from\,Cllr\,Birch\\$ 

(Minute O&S.26(a) below refers)

# MINUTES of the MEETING of the OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, Held in the Council Chamber, Follaton House, Totnes, on THURSDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Panel Members in attendance:								
	* Denotes attendance	Ø Denotes apology for absence							
*	Cllr L Austen	*	Cllr J Rose						
*	Cllr J P Birch	*	Cllr H Reeve (substituting for Cllr Rowe)						
*	Cllr M Chown	Ø	Cllr R Rowe						
*	Cllr R Foss (substituting for Cllr Spencer)	*	Cllr P C Smerdon (Vice Chairman)						
*	Cllr S Jackson	Ø	Cllr B Spencer						
*	Cllr L Jones	Ø	Cllr J Sweett						
*	Cllr M Long (substituting for Cllr Sweett)	*	Cllr D Thomas (Chairman)						
*	Cllr J McKay	*	Cllr B Taylor						

Other Members also in attendance either in person or via Teams:
Cllrs K Baldry; H Bastone; J Hawkins; K Pringle and J Pearce

Item No	Minute Ref No below refers						
All		Deputy Chief Executive; Director of Strategy & Governance; Director of Place & Enterprise (via Teams) Economic Development Officer; Democratic Services Manager; Head of Strategy, Corporate Projects &					
		Partnerships (via Teams); and Community Digital Specialist (via Teams)					

#### O&S.20/22 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (O&S) held on 21 July 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

#### O&S.21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and officers were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting, but there were none made.

#### O&S.22/22 PUBLIC FORUM

In accordance with the Public Forum Procedure Rules, the Chairman informed that no questions had been received for consideration.

#### O&S.23/22 BUILT & NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THEMATIC UPDATE

Following the Council's adoption of the Better Lives for All Strategy in September 2021, the Committee was provided with an update on the Built and Natural Environment strand of the Better Lives for All Strategy.

In discussion, the following points were raised:

- (a) The Build projects in Salcombe were slightly behind schedule but the completion date was expected to be before the end of the year with the Business Units currently being out to Tender. Whilst not in a position to predict the tendering process, the local wish (and demand) for these Units to be secured by businesses connected to the marine industry was recognised;
- (b) With regard to Action BN1.1 (Supporting the Delivery of Neighbourhood Plans), it was confirmed that the Council was doing all it could to resolve the issue with the wish to modify the Salcombe Neighbourhood Plan, however the delay lie with the Planning Inspector. In response to a further question regarding whether the Committee could be advised of the Towns/Parishes that had not yet or were not intending to develop Neighbourhood Plans, it was confirmed that developing such plans was a matter for each Town or Parish Council (T&PC) to decide upon. As a result, the Council was always happy to encourage and facilitate the creation of Neighbourhood Plans, but could not insist that a T&PC develop one;
- (c) In respect of Action BN1.2 (Facilitate Urban Tree Planting), officers advised that the Tree Planting Plan extended into the 2023/24 Year and that officers would be asked to liaise with local Ward Members about potential planting sites in their Wards;
- (d) Referencing Action BN1.5 (Commission Work Leading to Delivery of Priority Cycle Routes and a Twenty Year Vision for the Cycle Network in the South Hams), officers informed that the Tender exercise to select the Consultants to produce the report to identify and prioritise potential cycle routes in the district would be circulated by January 2023 with a view to receiving the final report in mid 2023. This exercise was to be funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund monies. It was further confirmed that the consultation exercise with the public, Town and Parish Councils and with other parties, such as the Dartmoor National Park, would be fundamental to the report and the development of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

In response to a question about whether or not the LCWIP work would continue should the Council's latest bid to the Government for investment not be successful, it was confirmed that Devon County Council could still undertake a high level exercise which would likely result in a lower level of local engagement, but that it would still be a matter for this Council to decide whether it wished to make the funding available for the exercise as part of its Better Lives for All Corporate Strategy;

(e) On the matter of Action BN1.6 (Work to Facilitate the Delivery of Broadband Connectivity Where it is Needed – Supporting Digital Infrastructure for the Future), it was noted that contracts to install Fibre Broadband within the District were not held with the Council but were national contracts and as such it was almost impossible to gather information from the suppliers about their installation plans but that the Council was doing its utmost to facilitate the work and inform local residents about the progress of the installation. A Member highlighted that the text of this Action within the Thematic Update document might imply that the Council had responsibility for, or control over, the Fibre installation programme and suggested that making a revision to the wording would help to clarify the Council's position. It was agreed that the text would be amended for the next iteration of this Delivery Plan.

In addition, since a number of local authorities in the County were experiencing similar problems, the suggestion was made that the item be added to the agenda of the forthcoming Devon Districts Forum meeting, which was attended by the Leader of Council, following which any affected Councils could approach Devon County Council with a joint request for improved engagement with the both the installation providers and Connecting Devon and Somerset. The Committee subsequently expressed its support for this course of action.

In concluding the item it was **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED**, and at the subsequent vote, **AGREED** that the Recommendation be amended to take account of the actions that the Leader of Council and Assistant Director for Strategy and Projects had committed to undertaking during the debate.

It was then:

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the progress made against the Better Lives for All thematic delivery plan for Built & Natural Environment and request that the Leader of Council and Assistant Director for Strategy and Projects take into account and action the comments raised during the debate.

#### O&S.24/22 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

Members were advised that, in error, the published agenda report did not adequately reflect performance nor provide sufficiently detailed information to merit being considered at this meeting and as such it was agreed that this item should be deferred to the next Committee meeting (to be held on 3 November 2022) for further consideration.

#### O&S.25/22 TASK AND FINISH GROUP UPDATES

#### (a) Electric Vehicle Charging

In advance of the forthcoming inaugural meeting of the Electric Vehicle Charging Task and Finish Group, Members commented on the value of a recent Webinar on the subject which had provided useful anecdotal experience from other local authorities across the country and which provided helpful suggestions on what aspects of the topic the Task and Finish Group should examine.

#### O&S.26/22 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

#### (a) Formal Request from Cllr Birch

Cllr Birch outlined the reasons for his request that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee examine the Council's recently closed lybridge Regeneration Project, but added that, in view of the fact that this item was being considered at the forthcoming meeting of the Audit and Governance (A&G) Committee, he would recommend that a decision not be taken as to if or when this item would be added to the O&S Committee Work Programme until after the A&G Committee had concluded its work.

The remaining matters on the draft annual work programme for the 2022/23 year were reviewed and the amendments to the scheduling of issues approved by the Committee.

(Meeting started at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.55 pm)		
	Chairman	

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

There is a period of 15 minutes at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during which members of the public can ask questions about items on the agenda.

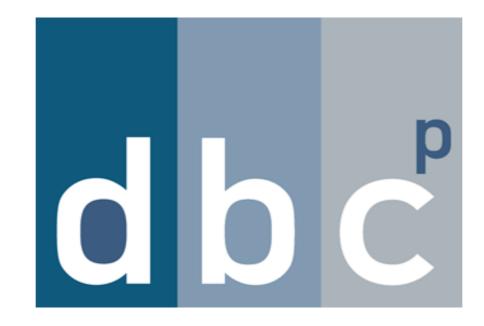
Any member of the public who wants to ask a question should ensure that the question:

- a) is no more than 50 words in length;
- b) is not be broken down into multiple parts;
- c) relates to an item included on the agenda; and
- d) is suitable to be considered. A question will not be suitable if, for example, it is derogatory to the Council or any third party; relates to a confidential matter; it is about a specific planning matter; or it is substantially the same as a question asked in the past six months.

Questions should be sent to Democratic Services (<a href="Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk">Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk</a>) by 1.00pm on the Monday before the meeting (the deadline will be brought forward by a working day if affected by a bank holiday). This will allow a detailed response to be given at the meeting. If advance notice of the question cannot be given the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to allow questions on matters that are felt to be urgent;

For any further advice on questions to the O&S Committee, or to request a copy of the full Public Questions Procedure Rules, please contact Democratic Services (Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk)





# **Operational/Business Plan 2022/23**

Edition	Q1
<b>Revision Date</b>	22/07/2022
Author	Nigel Hunt

### Contents

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Section 2: Operational Priorities 2022-23	7
Section 1: Introduction and Partnership Drivers including service structure	3

#### Section 1 – Introduction and Partnership Drivers

Non-Fee Earning Work

Dangerous Structures.

Demolitions.

**Enforcement of Building Regulations** 

Process disabled person's applications.

Registering AI Initial Notices and Competent Person Scheme works.

#### Main functions of the team This Operational Plan has been developed for the Devon Building Control Partnership which carries out the Building Control functions for Teignbridge District Council, South What do we do? Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council. The main function of the Partnership is to ensure that the Councils can meet their statutory and regulatory duties in respect of building control matters in a timely manner. It is a statutory service, which administers legislation relating to the built environment and operates in such a manner as to establish and maintain a high reputation for both itself and the partner councils. It therefore aims to provide a responsive service, which is of a consistently high standard and gives value for money to its customers. The service has two elements which are described as fee earning and non-fee earning work. The building regulation aspect of the service is income generating and in accordance with The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 and CIPFA accounting requirements. This aspect of the business must be self-financing over a continuous threeyear rolling period. The non-fee earning part of the service is funded by the council taxpayer and includes dangerous structures, enforcement, demolitions, support for the safety advisory group and consultancy services to other council services. Local authority building control is subject to competition from private sector building control bodies (approved inspectors or Al's) operating both regionally and nationally. This competitive scenario is applicable across all developments including domestic extensions, new housing, and commercial developments. This gives all applicants a clear choice between the Local Authority Building Control Service (LABC) and private sector building control Approved Inspector (AI) services. This choice may be based on cost alone or a number of other factors such as the quality of site inspection service, ease of contact, early involvement in the design process or flexibility in making decisions. However, it is made, the Partnership must try to compete effectively Despite this choice, the Local Authority retains a statutory duty to enforce the building regulations in its geographical area. Approved Inspectors are not able to perform this function and sites which cannot be signed off by Al's revert to Local authorities for enforcement. Thus, irrespective of workload and income, all councils must retain a Building Control Service at some cost to the Authority. The service is also subject to a continuous programme of both administrative and technical legislative change, this means that management objectives and priorities may change at short notice. **Building Regulation Fee Earning Service** This service is concerned with determining compliance with Building Regulations by assessing plans and carrying out site inspections at different stages of the building process. Customers are advised of contraventions of the building regulations and how they may be overcome. Legislation allows prosecution in the magistrates' court for contraventions of the Building Regulations but is only used as a last resort. This element of the service's work is subject to competition by the private sector.

Building Control provides a number of services which are necessary as part of a local authority service. These include:

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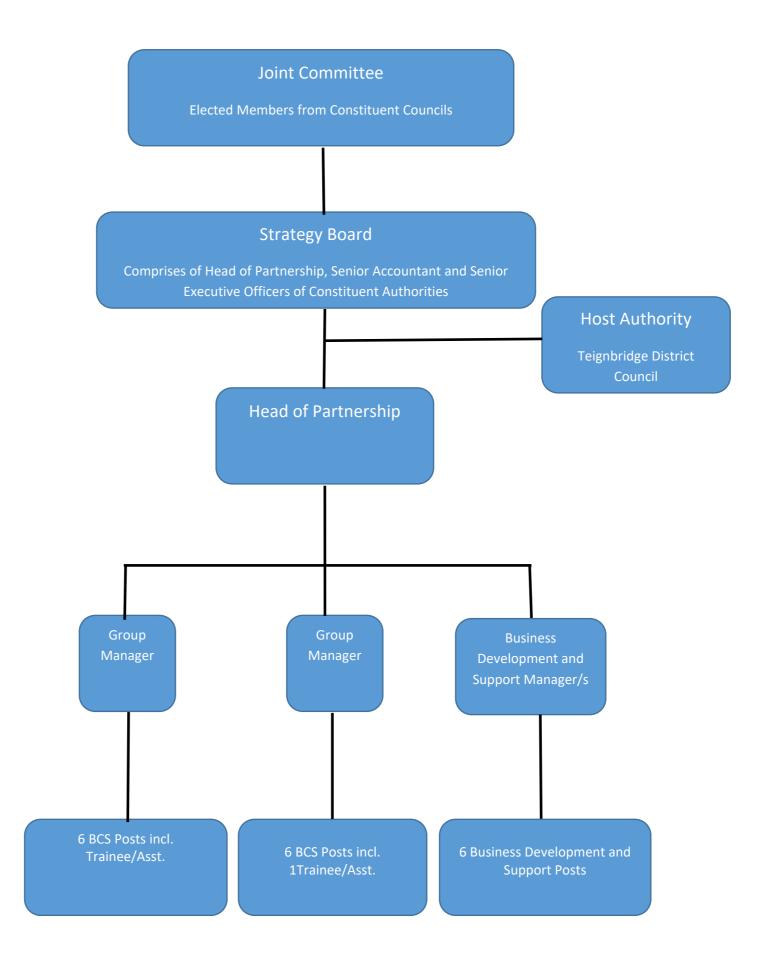
	Provide advice to other council services.
	Safety advisory group / safety at sports ground.
	General pre-application and building regulations advice.
	These elements of building control work do not require payment of a building regulation charge and are not required to be self-financing.
	NB Opportunity and Risk Assessments are now held on the internal management system.
	Main activities
	The main activities of the Building Control service are as follows:
	Provide advice to customers about the need for planning and building control permission.
	Undertake Inspections on building work to ensure compliance with relevant standards and legislation
	Ensure the health, safety, and welfare of persons in and about buildings
	Provide advice to customers and partners on Building Regulation matters
	Enforcement of Building Regulations
	Organise and run the annual Building Excellence scheme
	Promoting energy conservation in homes.
	To contribute to the delivery of the partner council's corporate housing strategies by helping to improve the quality and standard of private sector housing
	The Partnership has a diverse range of customers, stakeholders and partners (within and outside the organisation). These include.
Who do we deliver to?	Applicants, agents, internal teams, Parish Councils, members of the public, elected Members, external statutory and non-statutory consultees, other Local Authorities and Professional Bodies
7	The vast majority of services provided by all functions within the service are delivered using a combination of in-house resources and partnership with external organisations.
	However, it should be noted that a large part of the Building Control function is carried out in a competitive marketplace and is subject to commercial pressures.
How do we deliver?	However, it should be noted that a large part of the building control function is carried out in a competitive marketplace and is subject to commercial pressures.
	The determination of Building regulation applications, dealing with Demolition Notices and ensuring Health and Safety of the public with regard to dangerous structures. All other
Which elements of our service are statutory or	elements of the service are discretionary.
discretionary?	The Partnership will proactively consider additional discretionary services which would generate income, such as fire risk assessments, access statements, SAP calculations and
,	acoustic testing.
	acoustic testing.

### Strategy map measuring performance delivering the service



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#### **DBCP STRUCTURE**



### Section 2

### **Operational Priorities 2021-22**

		Specific Actions D		Measure and Milestones				Quarterly	
	Priority		Due	Description	Target	Actual	Responsibl e person	Progress (RAG)	Comments
		Ensure all finances are effectively managed	Q1-4	CIPFA protocols followed and a balanced budget is delivered of a rolling three to five-year trading period	Annual sign off by Sec 151 Officer	Ongoing	NH		Finances reviewed monthly.
ma ag	Ensure that the Partnerships functions are managed in line with outcomes defined in agreement with the board and supporting	Yearly Operational/Business plan agreed with partnership board	Q1-4	Produce a plan which clearly sets out the targets and performance levels required.	Annual sign off by Board	New plan to be presented in Q4 each year	NH		Agreed by partnership board
	agreements	To provide effective leadership for the Building Control Partnership	Q1-4	Develop the Partnership strategically to provide high quality building control services and ensure that partners meet their statutory obligations under the relevant legislation.	Operational Plan agreed by Board	New plan to be presented in Q4  Each year	NH		As above
D000 13	Ensure the Partnership is fully aware of the proposed changes in legislation and the responsibilities associated thereof.	The Partnership will need to adapt to the significant changes being brought about by the introduction of a new Building Control Regulator now set in statute as well as new legislation relating to fire safety.	Q1-4	Develop the service to ensure any new proposals can be serviced effectively.  All surveyors have registered for training through LABC and New Burdens funding to become licensed.	N/A	N/A	NH		The partnership is already preparing itself for the changes by up skilling existing staff. The Govt. has provided New Burden funding to facilitate this
r		Implement the new Building Regulations and associated legislation.	Q1-4	The proposed changes are the most significant and wide ranging in over 30 years and will have a significant impact on the application and provision of Building Control.	N/A	N/A	NH		Updates will be provided to the strategy board throughout the year.
	Implement and update the LABC Quality Management System (ISO 9001:2015)	The LABC system will ensure that all LA Building Control providers undertake their roles and responsibilities to agreed standards across the country. In particular it focuses on service delivery, timeliness, and provision of information, professionalism and staff attitudes.	Q1-Q4	Continually review current working practices and protocols.	100%	100%	NH		Quarterly review of performance against requirements.

Develop a Medium-Term Financial Plan	A new MTFP will need to be developed against the background of issues arising from Covid-19 and possible recession. This will contribute to future business planning of the service	Q1-Q4	A MTFP will consider all potential financial impacts on the service over a 5-year period. Consideration will be given to possible changes to the general economy and the construction industry specifically. The plan will also outline proposals for a reserve fund and actions to reduce surpluses.	100%	Ongoing	NH	The MTFP has been updated to reflect previously agreed changes and will continue to monitor market conditions.
Develop a commercial approach to support business	Carry out detailed business analysis to understand current market share		Ensure the service fully understands its position in the BC marketplace, including market share, key strengths, and changes over time	100%	Ongoing	NH	Market position/share monitored monthly
growth	Identify realistic growth (or stabilisation) targets in key market sectors	Q1-4	Regular business analysis supports key business decisions in commercial environment	100%	Ongoing	NH	Business performance monitored closely
			Percentage market share stabilises, and business invests in growing priority areas	Maintain levels of market share 70% or above.	Q1 87%	All Staff	Market share has been maintained above agreed levels
	Building Control to register submitted applications within 5 working days	Q1-4	Applications registered within prescribed periods.  Validation and registration of applications within 5 days.	80%	Q1 100%	All Staff	Commentary provided quarterly
Take a positive and proactive approach to the determination of Building Regulation applications in a timely manner.	Initial check for compliance of Building Control application within 3 weeks. Request for additional information if required.	Q1-4	Full plan submissions checked for compliance with building regulations any additional information requested	80%	Q1 95%	All Staff	Commentary provided quarterly
	Approve or reject Building Control Full Plan applications within 8 weeks	Q1-4	Full plan applications need to be decided within a statutory 8-week period. If no decision is made applicants can claim back fees	100%	Q1 99%	All Staff	Commentary provided quarterly
	Requests for site inspections received before 4 pm will actioned the same day	Q1-4	Respond to request for site visits in a timely manner.	90%	Q1 100%	All Staff	Commentary provided quarterly
	Provide a responsive dangerous structure service	Q1-4	Respond within agreed timescales	100%	Q1 100%	All Staff	Commentary provided quarterly
Promote a healthy and safe environment	Respond to demolition notices in a timely manner	Q1-4	95% of notices responded to within 1 week	100%	Q1 100%	All Staff	All notices registered and acted upon within timescales
	Support area Safety Advisory Groups	Q1-4	Attend meetings as required	Ongoing	Ongoing	All Staff	Meetings attended where BC input required
Maintain and improve market share	Devon Building Control Partnership services are used on the majority of applications registered within the	Q1-4	Promote and market the service at all possible opportunities. Utilise customer feedback information and	Ongoing		All Staff	Market share is being maintained and it is hoped that new ways of working will

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	geographical area of the Partner Councils. Targets laid out in Marketing Plan/Strategy		industry trends for market intelligence.		Ongoing		increase the percentage.
Provide timely pre-application advice to customers and realise an opportunity for additional income for the Council.	Meet with customers on request to advise on Building Regulation requirements	Q1-4	Building Control surveyors available to customers by attending the partner offices or on site by appointment.	Ongoing	Ongoing	All Staff	Staff are actively engaging with clients via online platforms or in person.
	Building Control Surveyors will act as account managers with registered partners	Q1-4	Will enable single point of contact regarding pre- application consultation	Ongoing	On going	All Staff	All surveyors have a client portfolio.
	Meet with customers twice yearly through the liaison panel to identify areas for improvement and report back on actions taken if appropriate.	Q1-4	Twice yearly meetings held with customers and actions taken.	100%	Next meeting TBA in Q3	NH	Meetings are informal and are held after a CPD event. An event has been organised for each quarter.
Use customer feedback to deliver continuous service improvements and increased customer satisfaction.	Take action where complaints are considered to be justified.	Q1-4	Action taken where complaints are justified.	100%	Ongoing	NH	No complaints during the year
	Ensure that all cases of service feedback whether praise or complaint is recorded and reported. Review each case so that the service can learn and reinforce those areas of delivery.	Q1-4	Praise exceeds justified complaints.	100%	Ongoing	NH	Customer feedback is recorded and in some cases presented on the SBCP website.

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### Agenda Item 8

Report to: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** 

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022

Title: Leisure Contract - Fusion Quarterly Q2

**Update Report** 

Portfolio Area: Health & Wellbeing - Cllr Jonathan Hawkins

Wards Affected: All

Urgent Decision: N Approval and Y

clearance obtained:

Date next steps can be taken: Immediately

Author: Jon Parkinson Role: Specialist (Leisure) Assets

Contact: jon.parkinson@swdevon.gov.uk

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the contents and progress of Fusion's Quarterly Report – Q2 for 2022.

#### 1 Executive summary

1.1 This report provides an update on Fusion's Quarter 2 performance and a presentation summary for the past 3 months shown in Appendix A.

#### 2 Background

- 2.1 Nationally the leisure sector continues to experience difficult times following the slow recovery from Covid-19 in the operations of leisure centres.
- 2.2 The current global and UK economic instability, the energy crisis, the cost of living challenges, increased supply chain costs and ongoing staff recruitment and retention issues have all resulted in costs increasing and income levels not growing as expected.
- 2.3 The provision of leisure centres is a discretionary service. However the activities align with the Council's corporate strategic plan 'Better Lives for All' in providing quality services and community wellbeing. This includes increasing active participation in sport and leisure activities.

#### 3 Outcomes/outputs

3.1 The leisure contract sets out specific performance indicators which Fusion will deliver through its plans and targets, these include being a more active district, promoting community development,

- improving health and wellbeing of local residents, improving quality of services and delivering environmental improvements.
- 3.2 The attached quarterly presentation from Fusion highlights key performance areas and provides an overview on new marketing, activity programmes and a new post for Sport and Community Development in the South Hams.
- 3.3 For August the Centres had their highest usage level, reaching 65,000 visits, a positive performance driven by family activities, casual swimming and the influx of visitors to the region.
- 3.4 Overall leisure centre memberships in September '22 were at 87% compared to pre-Covid levels, 5,857 against 6,764 in March'20;

Total	March 2020	September 2022	%
Dartmouth	560	558	99%
Ivybridge	1,665	1,386	83%
Quayside (Kingsbridge)	1,523	1,315	86%
Totnes	1,117	808	72%
Meadowlands (Tavistock)	1,075	1,145	106%
Parklands 824 (Okehampton)		645	78%
Total	6,764	5,857	87%

Swim school has been in very high demand and overall memberships have passed pre-Covid levels, being at 102% compared to March '20.

Total	March 2020	September 2022	%
Dartmouth	162	123	76%
Ivybridge	820	1,004	122%
Quayside (Kingsbridge)	778	647	83%
Totnes	402	386	96%
Meadowlands (Tavistock)	519	496	96%
Parklands (Okehampton)	286	364	127%
Total	2,967	3,020	102%

3.5 The centre usage figures and recovery from the Covid-19 restrictions have been good and are in line with national data trends taken from Sport England – Moving Communities up to January 2022. No further recovery data has been provided for this year.

#### 4 Proposed Way Forward

4.1 The solar energy project, which received approval for a change in its funding recommendation by Council in July, has been delayed by

- a change in contractor to install the panels. Fusion are still seeking to appoint an alternative contractor following site visits and a final tender submission. They have received two initial quotes, both of which look viable at this time.
- 4.2 For Totnes Leisure Centre, Fusion have recently taken the decision not to proceed with the proposed investment at the facility due to the current business case not being viable at this time. Various factors are currently facing Fusion, as highlighted for the national leisure sector, in regards to rising operational, staffing and energy costs, cost of living crisis, rising building costs and the overall economic climate regarding inflation and interest rates.
- 4.3 The local Totnes Tadpool project group will consider the next steps as to how the facility can be improved and measures to increase usage.

#### 5 Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	Leisure is a discretionary service. The management of the council's leisure centres are agreed in a formal contract agreement with appropriate reporting structures.
Financial	Y	The investment borrowing and contract arrangements were approved as part of the contract award.  Management fee changes were reported at Executive on 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022 E.94/21 and approved by Council on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022.  Management fee payments have been received from Fusion for the 2021/22 financial year.  For 2022/23 management fee payments, these have been confirmed with Fusion and monthly payments will be made from October '22 to March '23.  All management fee payments are set out with the appropriate indexation applied.
Risk	Υ	Mitigated through the formal procurement process and the business case appraisal.
Supporting Corporate Strategy	Y	Council, Communities, Wellbeing
Climate Change – Carbon /	Υ	Contract targets to reduce energy usage

Biodiversity Impact						
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications						
Equality and	Υ	All leisure centres remain open and have activities				
Diversity		open for all sections of the community				
Safeguarding	Υ	Relevant policies and practices in place through the				
		contract.				
Community	N					
Safety, Crime						
and Disorder						
Health, Safety	Υ	Improved though better facilities and part of				
and Wellbeing		service delivery.				
Other						
implications		none				

#### **Supporting Information**

Appendix A – Fusion Quarterly Report Q2; July - September 2022



### **Fusion Quarterly Review Presentation**

**South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council** 

Period: July - September 2022

October 17th 2022

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# Page 2

# **Quarterly Review**

### Agenda

- Performance Update:
  - Marketing
  - Sport and Community Development
  - Participation
  - Memberships
  - Customer Satisfaction
- Moving Forwards

# **Performance Overview**

### Marketing – Key Campaigns

- Spring campaign 'STRETCH your LIMITS'. New digital artwork was created and new collateral artwork was sent to sites to distribute around the Centre.
- Supporting offers include December and January for FREE, 50% off first payment & joining fee, join now & pay nothing until 15<sup>th</sup> October and 50% off initial payment.
- The campaign was introduced via social and all digital platforms, uncluding emails to casuals, prospects and members as well as appendifications.
- In addition to the refer a friend campaign, refer a friend and both parties receive a month free (month 7) was extended. Refreshed artwork was designed for referrals to fit the 'STRETCH your LIMITS' campaign.
- All South Hams and West Devon centres continue to update their app and web platforms to ensure bespoke content is displayed.

### Marketing

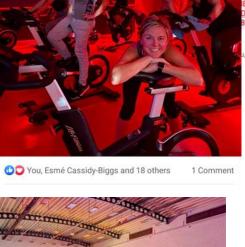
- Quayside Leisure Centre now feature in Salcombe Rugby Programs.
- Dartmouth now feature in Discover Dartmouth Dartmouth Leisure Centre – Discover Dartmouth.
- Morrison's donation to Meadowlands, in return, the team made an appearance on Mental Health Awareness Day at Morrison's.
- Regular Roller Discos were launched at Dartmouth, Totnes and
- Parage Ivybridge.
  Young Adu Young Adult Memberships were launched across the contract 130 ytd New Fitness Class Instructors were recruited and NEW group exercise classes were launched, including; Parent and Toddler Fit and Boxfit.
- Meadowlands launched ballet to reach a new dynamic of junior activities.
- Quayside have partnered with Kingsbridge Ladies Rugby Club to enhance their fitness regime.

## **Local Images**





BOOKINGS NOW LIVE!











16 Sep · 3

3 Setting the Barre

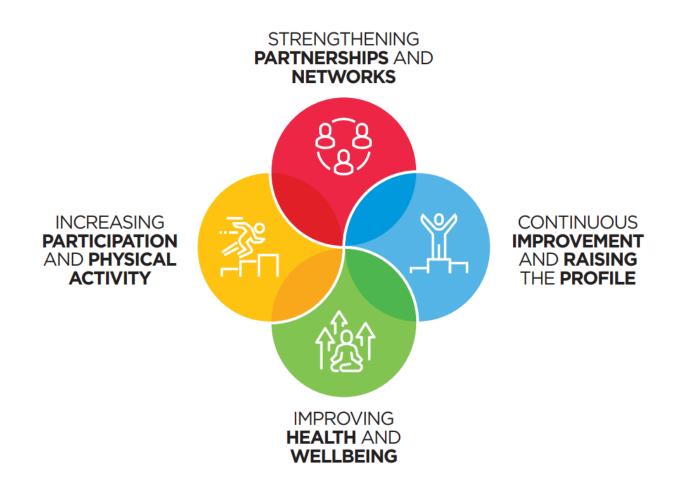
10 comments





Saturday 24th of September 8:00-16:00

# Sport & Community Development



### **Increasing Participation**

#### Youth Leisure Nights

- Youth Genesis have unfortunately pulled out of Youth Nights in South Hams.
   Ivybridge are looking to offer a youth provision on a Friday in house without Youth Workers.
- A new partnership is being made with TRAYE in Totnes and talks are underway with Active Devon to fund the youth workers to start a new session at Totnes.

#### Roller Discos

• A disco took place on 10th September at Totnes with 52 people taking part. More planned for October, November and December. The discos are supported by Tadpool.

# planned for October, November ar TQ6 Summer Family Sessions TQ6 funded Free summer holida

- TQ6 funded Free summer holiday sessions at Dartmouth throughout the summer holidays. Sports hall with bouncy castle and multi-sport games and family swim.
- 51 different people registered and 100 attendances.
- Another 6 weeks of free sessions for TQ6 residents started on 25th September with family swim on Sundays and bouncy fun on Saturdays running until 5th November.

#### SEND Swimming

Planning to restart SEND swimming lessons at Quayside in Autumn.

### **Increasing Participation**





#### Learn to swim in a safe, friendly & fun environment

#### Launching at Quayside Leisure Centre

SEND swimming lessons for children based where you and your child will in small groups with their parents or meet the teacher, have a tour of the

We will develop their swimming ability and water confidence through fun and sensory activities. Lessons will be for 30 mins and meet the needs of each individual child with teachers who have had specialist training.

We are excited to launch specialist 
The first week is free and is none water leisure centre and discuss individual learning needs. This can be done on a 1-2-1 basis if needed.

Ask at reception or visit us online for more details fusion-lifestyle.com/swimschool

**Quayside Leisure Centre** Ropewalk, Kingsbridge TQ7 1HH 01548 857100 quaysideleisurecentre.com



totnesleisurecentre.com

T: 01803 862992

**South Hams / West Devon** 

### **Increasing Participation**

### Exercise on Recommendation (EOR)

- Total of 95 referrals in Q2, Target of 250 for 2022
- YTD there have been 249 referrals across the 6 leisure centres. Of these 76% have started the 12 week supported programme. Of those who started, 45% have completed the 12 week programme.

	July	August	September	Total
Quayside	(	3 3	13	19
Totnes	(	5 12	. 1	19
Ivybridge	Į.	5 13	7	25
Parklands	(	5 6	7	19
Meadowlands	(	0	0	0
Dartmouth	8	3 4	1	13
	28	3 38	29	95

#### Falls Prevention

- An expression of Interest was submitted to West Devon CVS to deliver a 12 month pilot Falls Prevention service for £25,000 but was unfortunately unsuccessful.
- Karen Edworthy (EOR at Parklands) is undertaking the PSI training hosted by Active Devon to delivery Falls Prevention classes with the Well Moor Project. We are planning to set up chair based sessions at Parklands as an exit route to the Falls prevention programme.

### Increasing Participation

#### OCRA – West Devon Participation data:

July: 4,863 Total (4,385 Junior, 410 Adult, 68 Fifty plus)

August: 3,004 Total (2569 Junior, 346 Adult, 89 Fifty plus)

September: 2,967 Total (2,689 Junior, 171 Adult, 107 Fifty plus)

• Includes: Walking Netball & Football, Gymnastics & Trampoline Programme, Holiday Schemes, HAF Funded sessions, Yes Tor project, Just Play Football, school delivery.

OCRA Sports and Fitness Festival returned for 2022. With the Super Sporting Sunday on 24th July.

### **Community Outreach**

- Online consultation organised by Active Devon for Bickleigh & Cornwood residents to help identify physical activity needs. 51 responses
- Outreach Sport & Community Development Officer role appointed and starts
   1st November. 20hrs week
- Postcode data of Fusion members has been analysed by SH Wards with fewest members coming from the following 4 wards; Woolwell, Wembury & Brixton, Bickleigh & Cornwood and Marldon & Littlehempstead.

**South Hams / West Devon** 

### **Increasing Participation**

### Funding

- Trying to secure funding for EOR instructor training for 1 at Parklands and 1 at Dartmouth.
- Working with TRAYE and Active Devon to submit Together Fund Application for Totnes Youth Nights and including physical activity as part of their existing rural provision.
- OCRA £28k secured to deliver Woodlands Therapy for Veterans including Bushcraft.

#### FANS

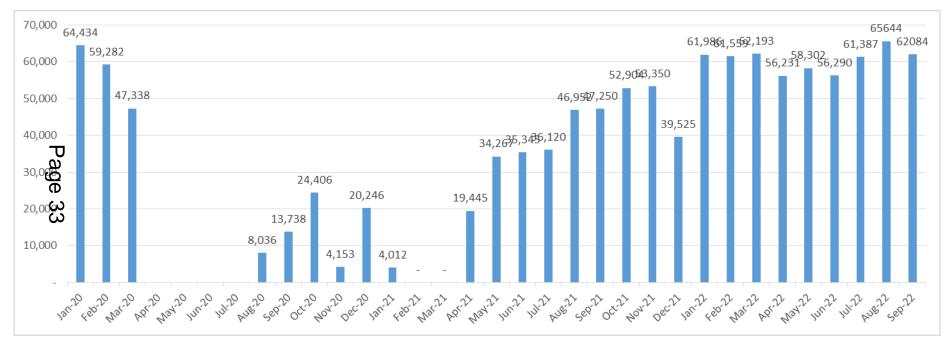
- Soon to launch new Fusion Academy to replace.
   FANS. Filming taken place with Giselle Ansley GB Hockey Player to feature on website.
- 45 people on the FANS scheme (27 SH, 18 WD)



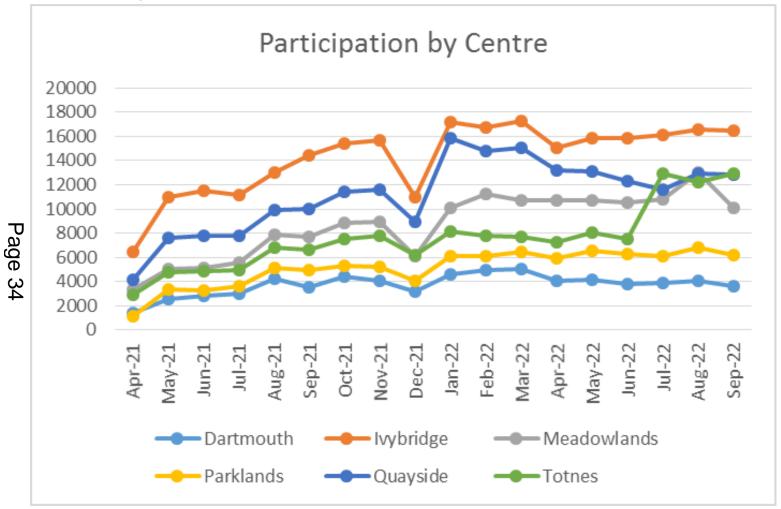
### **Participation**

- Total Q2 Participation: c.189k
   South Hams c.136k

  - West Devon c.53k



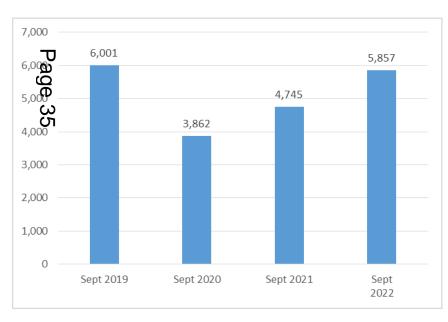
### **Participation**

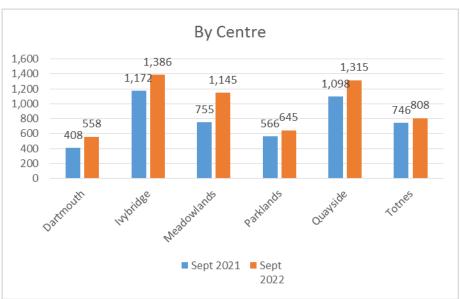


### **Quarterly Review**

### Memberships

- Total Memberships: 5,857 (at 98% of Pre-Covid)
  - Parklands and Totnes are below pre Covid count
  - Introduction of short term memberships have driven overall membership count this summer.





### **Quarterly Review**

### **Customer Satisfaction**

- NPS Q2 Score 20.5
  - Promoter mentions: Staff, Pool, Group Exercise, Equipment
  - Detractor mentions: Changing Rooms, Cleanliness
  - Increased footfall over August due to visitor numbers
  - Cost of living crises comments regarding cost
  - Totnes feedback regarding older centre



# Page 37

### **Quarterly Review**

### Moving Forwards

- Solar / Renewal Energy
  - Roof survey at Parklands to be completed
  - Contractor visits under way and to be completed 15/10/2022
- Parent and Child
  - New programmes at Parklands, Meadowlands and Ivybridge
  - Increase in parent and child swimming programme

### Outreach

New SCD post to target activities in the local community

### **Totnes**

- Review alternative models for refurbishment funding
- Pricing model for 2023
  - Discuss with SH/WD pricing strategy, annual review
- Café
  - No progression to date, alternative model required



### **Fusion Quarterly Review Presentation**

South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council

Period: July - September 2022

October 17th 2022

### Agenda Item 9

Report to: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** 

Date: 3 November 2022

Title: 2021/22 Performance Management

Portfolio Area: Cllr Nicky Hopwood

**Executive Lead Member (Performance)** 

Wards Affected: All

Urgent Decision: N Approval and N

clearance obtained:

Author: **Drew Powell** Role: **Director Strategy and** 

Governance

Contact: <u>Drew.Powell@swdevon.gov.uk</u>

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:** 

- 1. Review the performance figures for the 21/22 financial year shown in the performance management report as included in Appendix A to this report; and
- 2. Note the proposed format for an enhanced performance report (as set out in Appendix B) which will be populated with performance data and considered at the meeting of this committee in January 2023.

#### 1. Executive summary

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the performance of the Councils key services against an agreed suite of measures on a six-monthly basis.
- 1.2 Performance reporting and corporate key performance indicators (KPI's) now form part of the corporate strategy 'Better Lives for All' reporting cycle which includes KPI's being reported to the Executive on a quarterly basis.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview and closedown report of performance for the 21/22 financial year.
- 1.4 In addition, the report sets out the proposed updated and improved format for future reports to this committee, in line with our enhanced performance management framework.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 Performance data was last reported to this Committee on 20th January 2022 (minute O&S.52/21 refers).
- 2.2 This report, through Appendix A, sets out the full year 2021/22 performance against agreed key performance indicators, provides a commentary on trends and, where performance was not in line with target, the mitigating measures that were employed.
- 2.3 During the global pandemic, as staff resource was prioritised into administering Government Covid business grants and emergency welfare support, some of the Council's services had slightly increased processing backlogs. These backlogs continued to be worked down throughout the year and with no major government announcements (apart from £150 energy rebate in the final quarter) the performance at the end of the year can be judged against more normal levels of customer demand.
- 2.4 Throughout the year, Covid related sickness absences increased the overall sickness levels among staff and added some additional pressure across the Council.

#### 3. Outcomes/outputs

3.1 Appendix A to this report sets out full year performance for 2021/22 for each of the agreed Key Performance Indicators. The report also includes an explanation of the trend and where performance is off target, a summary of the mitigating actions.

#### 4. Proposed Way Forward

- 4.1 The present suite of KPI's is no longer considered to provide the level of detail or clarity to enable members, and the community, to fully assess and scrutinise performance effectively.
- 4.2 As part of ongoing enhancements to the Council's performance management framework, it is proposed that when performance is next reported to this committee in January 2023, a new suite of KPI's will be presented.
- 4.3 The new KPI's are presently being developed in conjunction with the Executive and will focus primarily on service volumes and performance, customer experience and overall Council effectiveness.
- 4.4 In addition, it is proposed that there will be additional narrative setting out the description, direction of travel, history and how the KPI is calculated which is vital to ensure data quality is maintained.
- 4.5 Appendix B provides an example of the proposed format for future performance management reports to this Committee.

#### 5. Implications

	I	
Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Υ	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for both an overview of performance and for scrutinising how the Council is performing as an organisation.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	N	There are no direct financial implications of this report although it does set out Council Tax collection rates.
Risk	Y	The provision of KPI's and an effective performance management framework reduces the risk of Council services not being delivered effectively.
Supporting Corporate Strategy	N	
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	N	
Comprehensive Im	pact Assess	sment Implications
Equality and Diversity	N	
Safeguarding	N	
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	
Other implications	N	

### <u>Supporting Information</u> Appendices:

Appendix A – 2021/22 Full Year Performance Appendix B – Proposed format for future performance reports.

#### **Background Papers:**

None



#### **Appendix A - 2021/22 Performance Data**

The following sets out the performance against key performance indicators for the whole of the 2021/22 financial year.

#### **Waste and Recycling**

#### Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting



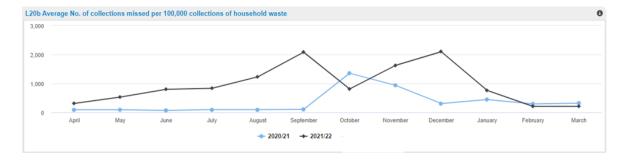
Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Well documented challenges with the	Robust Contract management
performance of the waste contractor	implemented.
impacted on performance.	

#### Residual household waste per household (average kgs per household)



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Dec/Jan are on trend normally higher	Continue to monitor through WDF and
following festive period, the figures are	returns and will educate residents on
higher in March but Garden Waste was	how to reduce waste through Waste
suspended and did not restart until	Recycling Advisors which will be in Dec-
28.03.22.	March 2023.

### Average number of collections missed per 100,000 collections of household waste



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Well documented challenges with the	Robust Contract management
performance of the waste contractor	implemented.
impacted on performance.	

#### **Benefits Service**

### Processing Speed (new claims) average number of days to process a claim



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Similar or better performance than	The implementation of the Revs & Bens
historic trends. New claims are currently	Service Review includes the
taking an average of 14 days to process.	implementation and monitoring of
	individual and team performance
	targets.

### Processing Speed (change of circumstances) average number of days to process an existing claim



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Peaks in workload in Q3 brought back	The implementation of the Revs & Bens
under control during Q4. Change of	Service Review includes the
circumstances are currently taking an	implementation and monitoring of
average of 4 days to process.	individual and team performance
	targets.

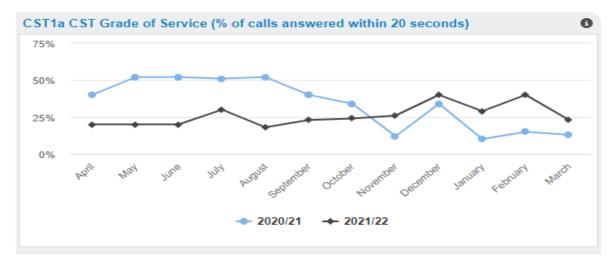
#### **Customer Contact and Call Centre**

#### Percentage of telephone calls answered



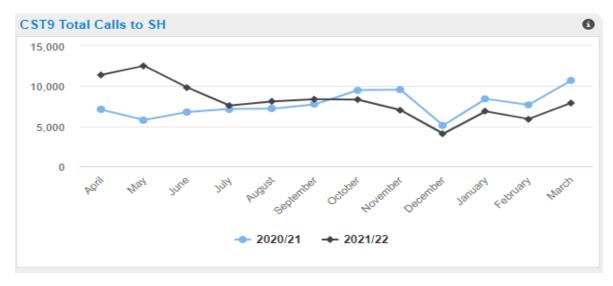
Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Calls were still high as the covid grant	Customer service improvement plan in
period approached the final deadline.	place and evolving over time. Positive
Usual end of year increase in calls. News	outcomes include: increased staffing on
of the £150 council tax rebate late in	busiest days of the week, reduced wrap
March added to the peak.	times, text messages to customers.

#### % of calls answered within 20 seconds



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Calls were still high as the covid grant	Customer service improvement plan in
period approached the final deadline.	place and evolving over time. Positive
Usual end of year increase in calls. News	outcomes include: increased staffing on
of the £150 council tax rebate late in	busiest days of the week, reduced wrap
March added to the peak.	times, text messages to customers.
The ideal range is between 25-50% to	
ensure maximum efficiency.	

#### **Total number of calls to South Hams**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Lower call volumes on average due to end	Continued focus on channel shift to
of covid grants.	reduce call volumes including text
	messaging and more online processes.

#### % of customer contact through online interaction



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Dropped as a % as the high volume covid	Continued channel shift should deliver
grant applications reduced over the	a slow improving trend.
quarter.	

#### **Total number of online submissions**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Fewer Covid grants submitted in Q4, base	No mitigation less overall workload is
workload was similar.	good.

#### Revenues

#### % of Council Tax collected (cumulative %)



#### **Explanation of Trend**

Consistent collection means that trends on graph are hard to differentiate between years. The above graph shows both years which are effectively identical.

The collection rate for Council Tax for South Hams was 98.34% for 2021/22. This was 2.44% higher than the national average of 95.9%.

A council tax collection rate of 98% has been set for 2022/23.

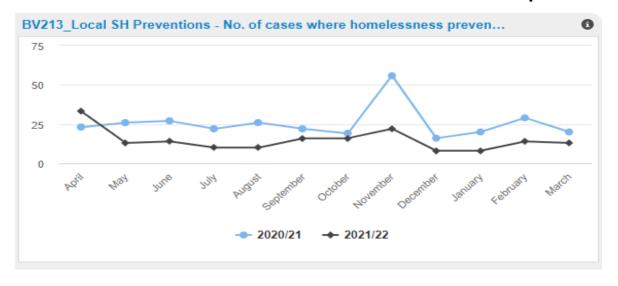
#### **Mitigation Measures**

Increased focus on recovery should further increase collection rates.

Consultation on Council Tax Reduction Scheme to support eligible residents.

#### Housing

#### **Local SH Preventions - Number of cases where homelessness prevented**



#### **Explanation of Trend**

The current housing crisis has resulted in a significant impact on our ability to successfully prevent homelessness.

The current supply of affordable rented accommodation in the private sector is negligible. This has resulted in us being unable to secure alternate accommodation within a reasonable timeframe and instead, the household becoming homeless and requiring temporary housing.

The resulting increased pressure on the social rented sector is resulting in further delays in suitable housing being allocated.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

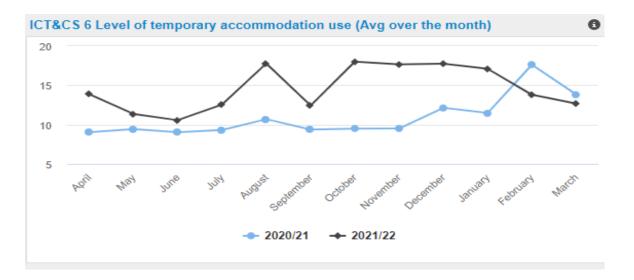
Working with landlords to extend notice periods.

Increased focus on payments of rent arrears or rent top ups where rent has become unaffordable.

Using powers available to us through the Devon Home Choice system to ensure households threatened with homelessness are prioritised for social housing.

Focussed projects in development to support households with cost of living crisis to include a focus on prevention/resolution of rent arrears.

#### Level of temporary accommodation use (average over the month)



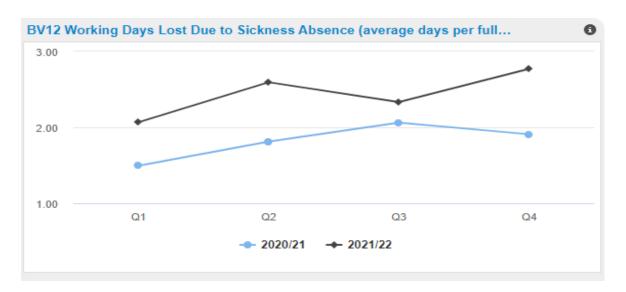
Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
We have experienced an increase in the numbers of households requiring temporary accommodation and time spent	Negotiation with landlords to extend notice periods.
due to lack of private rented sector housing offers.	Introduction of two temporary accommodation support officers who will be working with customers to find ways to access housing options in the private rented sector.

#### **Employee Sickness Absence**

#### Working days lost due to sickness absence



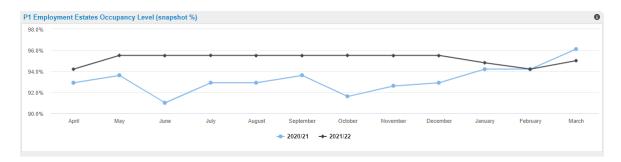
### Working days lost due to sickness absence (average days per full time employee)



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Long term sickness still at higher end of	Active monitoring and management of
historic range. Mainly attributable to 2 employees.	long and short-term sickness.
	Management development
Additional covid sickness on top normal short-term sickness pushed our sickness rates above the 2days/FTE target.	programme to equip managers with skills to support employees.

#### **Assets**

#### **Employment Estates Occupancy Level**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Upward Trend: 98.1%	Continued effective management of and investment in our existing
Prioritisation of revenue generating asset portfolio.	employment estate
	Timely action of lease events.
Timely action of lease events for example rent reviews and renewals.	,
Property Services ensuring a well-managed, attractive offer of business units.	

#### **Planning Service**

### Processing of planning applications: major applications % determined with extensions



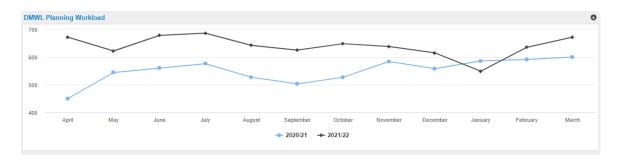
Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Continuing to determine majors in line with national targets and no drop in overall performance.	Need to continue to monitor individual major applications to ensure determination asap, with limited principal planning officers due to current vacancies. Recruitment process underway.

#### Non-major apps with extensions



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
On target.	Continue to monitor.
Slight dip in Q2-3 due to staff shortages.	Recruitment process underway alongside Planning Improvement Plan.

#### Planning workload



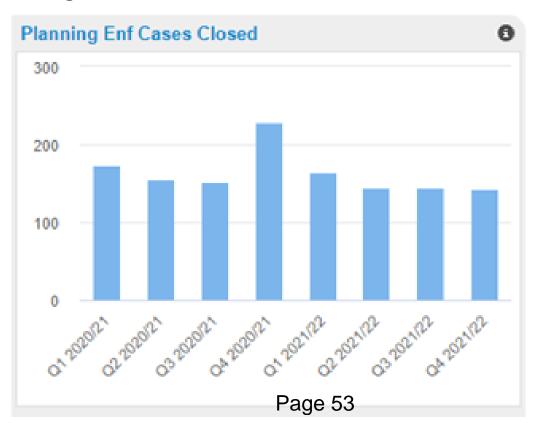
Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures	
Staff shortages have meant that planning workload has increased.		

#### **Planning Enforcement Cases received**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
The number of enforcement cases	N/A
received in Q1 is down on the previous 3	
years.	

#### **Planning Enforcement Cases closed**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures	
Number of cases broadly consistent over	N/A	
the year.		

#### **Planning Enforcement Cases Outstanding**



Explanation of Trend	Mitigation Measures
Number of cases broadly consistent over	N/A
the year and in line with expectations.	



## Key Service Performance

Six monthly update – April – Sept 2022 Overview and Scrutiny













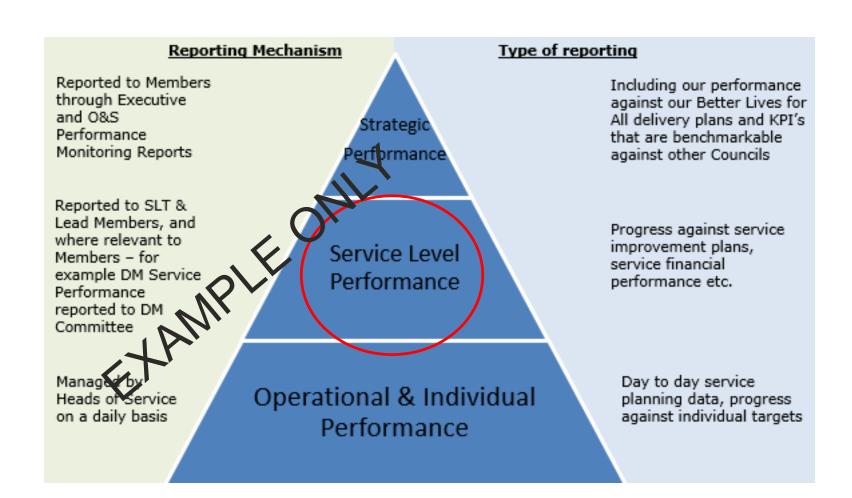
Better lives for all

### Introduction

The Council reports on performance in a number of ways as set out in our performance management framework. This report updates members on performance at the second tier – Service Level Performance.

This performance is also considered by the Senior Leadership Team on a regular basis as part of ongoing service performance review discussions.

Over the coming pages, we set out an overview of key service performance by directorate















### **Section 1 – Strategy and Governance**

A couple of service measures are currently off-track:-

- Performance measure A is off track primarily due to x y and z, during the coming period we will a,b and c to bring this back on track
- 2) Performance measure B is off track due to unexpected x,y,z and we are already seeing this come back on track.

A summary of performance for the directorate is set out to the right, with a deep dive into each of the measures on the coming pages.

	Measure	How are we doing compared to target?
	% of FOI requests handled within timescales	
	10% increase in engagement across all digital content channels	
•	% o major planning applications determined within 13 weeks or with an agrees EOT	
PI	% of non major planning applications determined within 8 weeks of with an agreed EOT	
4	% of planning appeals lost	
	Overall % of working days lost to absence (across all Council Services)	
	Average number of days lost to absence per FTE (across all Council Services)	















## **Section 1 – Strategy and Governance**

KPI Description	Good Looks Like			Direction of How its cattravel (compared to	How its calculated	Performance History
		Target	This Period	last period)		
% of major planning applications determined within agreed time extensions  Page  558	Higher than target	>60%	82%	Last period 91%	Divide the number of applications determined in line with agreed extension of time by total number determined over the measurement period.	NI 157a Processing of planning applications: Major applications % deter  150.0%  100.0%  50.0%  Quarterly Values  Quarterly Target  Quarterly Target
Explanation	major	application	ons to ens	ure setermin	ation in line with 13	Need to continue to monitor individual B week target and reduce reliance on vacancies at Principal Officer level.















#### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

#### INITIAL DRAFT ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME PROPOSALS - 2022/23

Date of Meeting	Report	Lead Exec Member/Officer		
8 December 2022	Council Delivery against Corporate Theme: Climate	Cllr Holway / Adam Williams		
	Quarterly update re Fusion – written submission	Cllr Hawkins / Jon Parkinson		
	Six monthly update – Broadband	Cllr Pearce / Gemma Bristow		
	O+S Annual Report	Democratic Services		
	Community Safety Partnership - Annual Report	Cllr Hawkins / Claire Birch		
	Task and Finish Group Updates: EV Strategy	Clirs Baldry and Holway / Drew Powell		
	O+S Annual Work Programme (to include preparation for next meeting)			
Р	je i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i			
anuary 2023	Council Delivery against Corporate Theme: Communities	Cllr Jonathan Hawkins		
<b>1</b> 012 or 19 – tbc)	Task and Finish Group Updates:			
59	EV Strategy – Concluding Report	Cllrs Baldry and Holway / Drew Powell		
9	O+S Annual Work Programme (to include preparation for next meeting)			
16 March 2023	Council Delivery against Corporate Theme: Homes	Cllr Judy Pearce		
	Customer Access Strategy (to include Contact Centre Review) – Quarterly Progress Report	Cllr Hopwood / Jim Davis		
	Bi-annual Report – Fusion	Cllr Jonathan Hawkins / Jon Parkinson		
	Task and Finish Group Updates (if any)	Ó		
	O+S Annual Work Programme (to include preparation for next meeting)	Φ		
20 April 2023	Council Delivery against Corporate Theme: Council Services	Cllrs Hopwood & Baldry		
	Task and Finish Group Updates (if any)	Cilis Flopwood & Baidity		
	O+S Annual Work Programme (to include preparation for next meeting)			
		<u> </u>		
To be considered for scheduling:	SWASFT – DCC update email dated Wed 6/7			



#### Dear Andy

I submit this written request for the following to be included in the Work Programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee pursuant to Chapter 3, Part 6.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

#### The Item.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee examine and receive evidence on the procedures followed by the Council in respect of the lybridge Regeneration Project from its inception to the decision taken to cancel.

Following such examination and evidence gathering the committee submits recommendations to the Executive on policies and their implementation to be adopted in respect of similar projects to avoid any unnecessary costs and non-productive officer time.

#### Reason

The SHDC Constitution provides

"The Principles of Scrutiny underpin the Council's overview and scrutiny function. This means that scrutiny:

- Provides a critical challenge to Executive policy makers and decision makers;
- Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard;
- Is carried out by "independent minded governors" who lead and own the scrutiny role: and
- Drives improvement in public services. [st]

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising decisions the Executive is planning to take, those it plans to implement, and those that have already been taken/implemented. Recommendations following scrutiny enable improvements to be made to policies and how they are implemented. The Committee is therefore to be seen as a "critical friend" rather than something that opposes the Executive"

Emphasis added in bold to highlight those parts of O&S's function that are relevant to this request.

The costs of in the region of £500,000 arising from the lybridge project deserve scrutiny and in particular the procedures followed by the Council that gave rise to such expenditure. Such scrutiny will result in a recommendation to Executive on policies and their implementation to be adopted in respect of similar projects to avoid any unnecessary costs and non-productive officer time

#### Regards

Cllr John Birch SHDC Member for Totnes

