WIRRAL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

7 OCTOBER 2020

REPORT TITLE:	**BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING**
REPORT OF:	**DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

REPORT SUMMARY

Through the development of Wirral Council's new Governance arrangements and the approval of the Wirral Plan 2025 (currently being refreshed to reflect strategic priorities, as a result of Covid-19) the Authority has committed to developing a budget and performance monitoring framework, which honours the Council's dedication to a more accountable, transparent way of conducting business, policy formation and decision making.

It is proposed that the Performance Framework is modelled on the Covid Dashboard set up at the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. This will enable clear and accessible data to be presented in a timely and meaningful way.

There are a very wide range of data sets that could be included in the Dashboard, and it is proposed that the specific selection will be co-created with members to ensure it is of most relevance and benefit to members.

Aligned with this is the Wirral Plan 2025. The Plan is currently being refreshed to reflect the Covid-19 situation and emerging Recovery Plans. This Plan will set out what the Council will commit to delivering over the next 5 years. Wirral's public services: the Wirral Partnership have a shared duty to improve the quality of life for residents.

Our ambition is for:

- A prosperous, inclusive economy where local people can get good jobs and achieve their aspirations.
- A sustainable borough that is not only environmentally friendly but one which plays its part in urgently responding to the environment and climate crisis
- Brighter futures for our young people and families – regardless of their background or where they live
- Safe, vibrant communities where people want to live and raise their families
- Services which help people live happy, healthy, independent, and active lives, with public services there to support them when they need it

RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure that Governance in Wirral allows for open, transparent, and responsive decision making, robust performance and budget monitoring will be incorporated to ensure that the individual policy and service committees will have sufficient oversight of these areas.

It is therefore recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee requests the Director of Resources to schedule a Members Workshop to enable members to identify, shape and own the performance data and information presented in future reports.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

1.1 To ensure that governance arrangements in Wirral enable open, transparent, and responsive decision making, robust performance and budget monitoring will be incorporated to ensure that the Policy and Resources Committee and the individual policy and service committees will have sufficient oversight of these areas.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 There are a number of options for capturing performance and budget information, and these will be presented to members at the workshop

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Regular monitoring of performance and the Council's performance and budgets will ensure the Public have oversight and to enable Elected Members to make informed decisions in a timely manner.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 The Council's Corporate Risk Register was presented to Audit & Risk Management Committee in March 2020. This is currently being reviewed and aligned to the new committees' priorities and objectives within this process, and to reflect the updated Wirral Plan and the impact of COVID-19.

7.2 As the plan is currently being refreshed to reflect changes due to COVID-19, a new Performance Management Framework (PMF) is currently being developed to align with the refreshed plan. The PMF will be aligned to the Council's risk management strategy and both will be regularly reviewed as part of corporate management processes.

7.3 There are significant implications for the Council in changing its decision-making structure to a new form of governance, which is being launched alongside unprecedented financial and service pressures resulting from both the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent demand on services. As such, Wirral Council have had to re-prioritise and re-design how our services are delivered and operated.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The priorities in the Council Plan 2025 were informed by stakeholder engagement carried out in 2019.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a policy, decision, or activity.

(a) Yes, and impact review can be found at https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments
Navigate to Equality Impact Assessments since 2017.
Navigate to service area.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Wirral Plan 2025 includes a set of goals and objectives to create a sustainable environment which urgently tackles the environment emergency. These are based on developing and delivering plans that improve the environment for Wirral residents. The performance report will include information on key areas where environment and climate related outcomes are delivered.

The content and/or recommendations contained within this report are expected to: - Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Example of Covid Dashboard

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date