

Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel – Questions requiring a response.

Minute No.	Item	Councillor	Question	Answer																														
23/62	Final 2024/25 Revenue Budget	Cllr Martin	Query on a 668% increase on last years budget under the Head of Service Strategic Insights and Delivery Line.	<p>That the reasons for the significant increase were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the funded Biodiversity for All roles (Project Manager/Project Admin/Two Graduate Ecologists) are now filled. These are funded through CPCA. • Sports Development was transferred into SID during 2023/24 from One Leisure. • Two staff were transferred into SID from Transformation. 																														
23/62	Final 2024/25 Revenue Budget	Cllr Jennings	Request for detail on the growth bids shown in Table 2B for Planning and Regeneration & Growth	<p>Planning:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Service</th> <th>Bid Title</th> <th>2024/24 Budget (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Development Management</td> <td>Conservation Area graduate</td> <td>36,474</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Creating capacity</td> <td>17,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staffing review, various</td> <td>50,230</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Uniform support resource</td> <td>15,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">118,704</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Planning Policy</td> <td>Local Plan reserve</td> <td>10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning policy capacity</td> <td>73,721</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staffing review, various</td> <td>10,379</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Priority Service, income</td> <td>(132,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(37,900)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total Planning Portfolio</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80,804</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Service	Bid Title	2024/24 Budget (£)	Development Management	Conservation Area graduate	36,474	Creating capacity	17,000	Staffing review, various	50,230	Uniform support resource	15,000			118,704	Planning Policy	Local Plan reserve	10,000	Planning policy capacity	73,721	Staffing review, various	10,379	Priority Service, income	(132,000)			(37,900)	Total Planning Portfolio		80,804
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23/62	Final 2024/25 Revenue Budget	Cllr Wells	Query relating to the detail in Table 7 surrounding supplies and services, communications and computing.	That the sizeable decrease between last year's budget and the current year's budget was linked to reclassification of partner spend through the 3C ICT agreement; it was not a reduction in the Council's direct spend.																						
23/63	2024/25 Treasury Management	Cllr Gleadow	Request for Treasury Training	Details to be confirmed directly to the Panel once arrangements have been made.																						

23/64	Corporate Performance Report 2023/24 Q3	Cllr Pickering	Request to adjust the layout to enable a one page view.	Due to accessibility rules it is not possible to include all the information to be presented on a single page due to the tiny text sizes that would be needed for that. The team will continue to work on ways to make the report easier to consume but the volume of actions, performance measures and projects means there's a lot to include.
23/64	Corporate Performance Report 2023/24 Q3	Cllr Pickering	Request for an update on the maintenance of the We Are Huntingdonshire website.	<p>The structure and purpose of the We Are Huntingdonshire site has been reviewed and the site has been updated as part of our approach to supporting those suffering financial vulnerability and those in financial crisis.</p> <p>There are two choices on the front page of the site – one for Huntingdonshire Residents and one for professionals and volunteers working with Huntingdonshire residents. The reference to the 'public facing' elements of the site in the performance report is meant as a reference to the '<i>Huntingdonshire Residents</i>' area of the site. This has been fully reviewed, refreshed, and restructured to reflect our overall approach (as endorsed by the Environment, Communities & Partnerships Scrutiny Panel), that we take a 'wider determinants' approach to crisis and preventing crisis. This approach attempts to address the causes as well as the consequences of vulnerability and crisis.</p> <p>The banner on the front page indicating the site was being refreshed was placed there while these changes were being made, which for a short period may have resulted in non-functioning links. However, most of the site remained functional during this period. The '<i>This site is being updated</i>' message remained there longer than intended due to a technical issue with the software supporting the site. This has now been rectified.</p> <p>The <i>Professional & Volunteers</i> section of the site aims to support those working with Huntingdonshire residents identify the most appropriate support</p>

				available. While it contains much of the information available in the residents' section, it also contains a referral form for our Residents Advice and Information Team. This is used by partners such as NHS Social Prescribers and the Police Service. This <i>Professional & Volunteers</i> section of the site is still under review and will be subject to further change. However, as this section is fully functional, the banner which indicated the site was being revised does not apply and has not been retained.
23/64	Corporate Performance Report 2023/24 Q3	Cllr Gleadow	Query on Procurement Rules	Awaiting response.