

CORPORATE PLAN REFRESH 2025

COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) Panel discussed the report at its meeting on 2nd April 2025.
- 1.2 Councillor Pitt expressed concern over the proposed measurement of Corporate Plan Action 3 being number of business engagements achieved by the Economic Development Team, following which the Panel heard that it was acknowledged that measuring the quality of engagement was important but difficult to do, it was noted that this measurement would be reviewed prior to finalisation.
- 1.3 Councillor Martin was appreciative of the earlier timeframe of the report than in previous years. In response to a question from Councillor Martin relating to Corporate Plan Action 29, the Panel heard that this metric would be reviewed to consider futureproofing new homes to allow for changes in mobility of residents throughout their life. The Panel also heard, following a further question from Councillor Martin regarding Corporate Plan Action 39, that the Council had ambition to influence others and that the possibility of including the Alconbury Weald train station within this KPI would be investigated.
- 1.4 Councillor Jennings observed that the new target for KPI 1 was too easy when taking past figures into account. In response to which, the Panel heard that whilst the Council was reluctant to set more lenient targets, it was important that the targets be realistic, however this target would be reviewed in line with the recently available quarter 4 figures and adjusted if necessary. Councillor Jennings further questioned the target achievability and wording of KPI 27, following which the Panel heard that the team had requested the revised target in order to push themselves but it was acknowledged that pushing too hard could prove counter productive, it was noted that the wording would be reviewed.
- 1.5 The Panel heard, in response to a question from Councillor Chapman, that the Local Plan looks at ensuring a balance of identified housing needs would be met with future development and that the new Local Plan would be informed by the evidence gathered.
- 1.6 Councillor Corney expressed concern that once in place, the support for Public Space Protection orders was minimal. The Panel were assured that the PSPOs were only implemented where the Police had assured support would be available and that a breakdown in what is achieved by these orders could be included.
- 1.7 In response to a question from Councillor Catmur regarding risks that Local Government Reform may pose to KPIs, the Panel heard that a business as usual approach had been adopted and that necessary

adjustments would be made as required as LGR progressed. It was further noted that this would be managed by the Local Plan Advisory Group.

- 1.8 The Panel heard that identified points would be reviewed with the appropriate teams and that outcomes to the points raised in the meeting would be communicated back to the Panel in due course.
- 1.9 Following the discussion, the Panel were informed that their comments would be added to the Cabinet report in order for an informed decision to be made on the report recommendations.