

**MINUTE OF EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 2
SEPTEMBER 2021****31 THE PLANNING SERVICE REVIEW - UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Place and Community as contained on pages 119 to 132 of the Book of Reports, which outlined the proposed actions and updated Members on the progress with implementing the recommendations of the planning services review.

The Interim Head of Growth and Development outlined the report and explained that a Working Group, made up of cross departmental representatives, led by the Corporate Director Place and Community had met on a regular basis to drive the implementation of the recommendations. Each recommendation was grouped according to a theme and documented. He explained that the Action Plan is now in the 'delivery phase' and that the Group will meet on a regular basis, currently at least fortnightly, to monitor and advance delivery of the actions and that progress on this will be reported to the Our Future; Our People Transformation Programme Board and Cabinet as appropriate.

He also explained that in reviewing the structure of the Planning Service, it was determined that the creation of a Team Leader post would give capacity within the service, to deal with the demands of the daily workload and to assist in taking the recommendations forward. He also explained that the costs of the new post would be funded through existing underspends in the Environmental Services and Growth and Development budgets. These are recurring underspends and no future growth will be required other than for usual pay increases.

In discussion comments and questions were raised in respect of:

- Support for the Planning Services Team Leader post – budget and future of the post
- Initial focus on 'quick wins'
- Action Plan – questions in respect to the length of the review and the end target date for the process to be considered
- Red Quadrant – 'process mapping' - ongoing work to develop the Action Plan, in order to identify efficiencies / better ways of working

RESOLVED:

- A. That the Planning Services Review update report be considered and noted.
- B. That the Committee fully support the creation of a Planning Services Team Leader post.
- C. That the Committee request a progress update report including target

start and completion dates against the 83 actions contained within the Action Plan, to be presented to the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held on 13 January 2022.