

73 **PLANNING SERVICE REVIEW - UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Place and Community as contained on pages 1373 to 1386 of the Book of Reports, which outlined the proposed actions and updated Members on progress with implementing the recommendations of the Planning Services Review.

The Corporate Director of Place and Community outlined the report and explained that Red Quadrant had been involved in taking forward the Planning Service Review. The Working Group reviewed 81 approved recommendations which were grouped into 'themes'. These were organised into a Project Plan, covering 58 main actions and further sub-divided into 210 individual tasks.

She explained that the target dates require some flexibility in delivery, due to the constraints on resources currently being experienced. She informed that despite this, good progress has been made, with 31% of the actions in progress or completed. Some of these, included reviewing information currently on the Council website; developing a new appointment booking system for Members who wish to speak directly with Planning Officers; review of the Enforcement and Pre-App process; reviewing the Enforcement Charter, a final version of which will be brought to the appropriate Committee.

In discussion questions and comments were raised in respect of:

- Planning restructure - request to possibly have an input at Overview & Scrutiny Committee / Members have input through budget process / delay to the process could be damaging
- Loss of Senior Posts / will Members see breakdown of Senior post job description and remit
- Restructure is same capacity as previously with two additional posts within existing budget through delegated authority
- Booking system for Members – Members to agree a suitable date/time with Case Officer.
- It was noted that there are 58 main actions and not 56 as stated in paragraph 6.1 of the report

The Chairman and Members of the Committee expressed their thanks for the update and all that has been achieved.

**RESOLVED:**

- A. That the Committee considered and noted the report on the Planning Services Review and that the Report be forwarded to Cabinet for their consideration.

B. That a progress update report be presented to Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee in Autumn 2022.