

Economic Development and Transport Policy 7th September 2016 and Scrutiny Committee

Report of the Director of City & Environmental Services and the Director for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

2016/17 Finance & Performance Monitor 1 Report – Economic Development and Transport

Summary

1. This report provides details of the 2016/17 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance across services within City & Environmental Services Directorate and Communities and Neighbourhoods Directorate. The paper incorporates data to June 2016 as reported to Executive on 25th August 2016.

Analysis

Finance

2. The services that relate to Economic Development and Transport Policy and Scrutiny committee cross two Directorates (City and Environmental Services and Communities and Neighbourhoods). Service Plan Variations which relate to services within this scrutiny are shown below:

| | Budget £'000 | Outturn £'000 | Variance £'000 |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| City & Environmental Services | | | |
| Transport | 5,949 | 6,149 | 200 |
| Fleet | -344 | -232 | 112 |
| Highways | 2,737 | 2,737 | 0 |
| Parking Income | -6,783 | -6,683 | 100 |
| Development Services, Planning and Regeneration | 351 | 700 | 349 |
| Economic Development | 1,162 | 1,162 | 0 |
| | | | |
| Communities and Neighbourhoods | | | |
| Parking | 1,087 | 1,087 | 0 |

Note: '+' indicates an increase in expenditure or shortfall in income
'-' indicates a reduction in expenditure or increase in income

3. Details of the main variations by service plan are detailed in the following paragraphs.

Transport (+£200k)

4. There is an anticipated shortfall of £100k unachieved Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) income relating to the scheme at Coppergate and anticipated increased costs of £100k for the risk and reward payment for Poppleton Bar Park and Ride.

Fleet (+£112k)

5. There is a £112k unachieved legacy saving from council transport costs for which a delivery plan still needs to be finalised.

Parking Income (+£100k)

6. The forecast shortfall for car parking currently stands at £100k, out of a total budgeted income of £6.9m. Parking income is currently at 3% below forecast. The main shortfall is at St George's Field where an area of the car park is being used by the Environment Agency as part of works undertaken to the Foss barrier. Negotiations are being undertaken regarding compensation for the loss of income.

Development Services, Planning and Regeneration (+£349k)

7. Early indications are that there will be a £300k shortfall in planning fee income due to a lower number of large planning fees. It is expected that as progress is made on the local plan then income from developers will increase. A major application can achieve significant fees, however the actual fee paid is dependent on the number of dwellings and scale of the site. There are additional costs of administration staff (£23k) which are offset by income from supporting Selby District Council planning department (£23k). It is expected that there will be a £49k shortfall in Environmental Management income and officers are looking at other ways of mitigating this shortfall.

Performance Update

8. The 2016/17 scorecard for Economic Development and Transport is attached at Annex 1. Other key performance information is included in the following paragraphs.
9. The council is consulting between 18th July and 12th September on the Local Plan Preferred Sites document and the supporting evidence which draws upon previous work undertaken for the Local Plan. It sets out the revised housing and employment demand as well as the supply of sites identified to meet this need. A wide number of consultation events are taking place and all residents and businesses are being encouraged to participate.
10. A paper was presented to June Executive that outlined the next steps for York Central which included working with both local enterprise partnerships on potential further growth deal funding to unlock York Central. KPMG and Savills have been appointed to be the commercial partners for the site and ensure effective delivery and private sector buy in. James Wharton MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government with responsibility for the Northern Powerhouse, joined City of York Council leaders and partners to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the York Central Enterprise Zone.
11. We are now working with partners to deliver on the eight priorities outlined in the Economic Strategy which was agreed by Executive in May and launched on the 19th July.
12. City of York Council's iTravel York invited residents and visitors to come and discover the very latest electric plug-in and hybrid vehicles at a "Green Wheels" event. Cars of all shapes and sizes from supercars to family hatchbacks from many leading brands and dealers were available to view with help on hand for people who were thinking about switching to an electric or hybrid vehicle with information about savings, recharging and running costs.
13. British Cycling and Sky, in partnership with City of York Council, have scheduled a series of Sky Ride Local rides in York for 2016. The rides are guided by British Cycling Ride Leaders along scenic local routes and pitched at three different levels. Rides will cater for complete beginners with easy going rides to people who like to test their skills with more challenging rides.
14. York is one of ten European cities to be shortlisted for the Interrail

European Destination of the Year Award 2016 along with nine other competitors, including Valencia and Budapest. According to Eurail Group G.I.E. (the organisation dedicated to the management of Interrail and Eurail Passes) York is a very popular destination among all nationalities of Interrailers arriving to the UK last year.

15. Figures from the Office for National Statistics showed there were 545 Job Seeker Allowance claimants in York in June which represents a fall of 30 from last month and 245 from June 2015. The claimant count for York represents 0.4 per cent of the working population, which is lower than both the regional and national figures which stand at 1.8% and 1.4% respectively. The youth unemployment figure of 0.2% falls below both regional and national figures, which stand at 1.9% and 1.3% respectively.
16. Data released by the Department of Work and Pensions is published 6 months in arrears - the latest data relates to November 2015. The total number of working age Benefit Claimants continues to fall (a reduction of 7.3% to 9,120 from 9,840 in November 2014). This represents 6.7% of the working age population which is lower than the regional and national figures which are 13.3% and 11.8% respectively. The reduction is predominantly due to a decrease in the number of Out of Work Benefit Claimants (an 8.1% reduction to 7,000 from 7,620 in November 2014), as there has been a slight increase in the ESA and Incapacity Benefit Claimants (a 0.9% increase to 5,430 from 5,150 in November 2014).

Implications

17. There are no financial, human resources, equalities, legal, crime & disorder, information technology, property or other implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

18. The report provides Members with updates on finance and service performance and therefore there are no significant risks in the content of the report.

Recommendations

19. As this report is for information only, there are no recommendations.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee of the latest finance and performance position.

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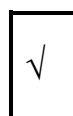
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**Report
Approved**



Date 30th August 2016

Annex

Annex 1 – Scrutiny Performance Scorecard