

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Wednesday, 5 July 2023

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Miss T G Harper (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs P Hayre (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Ms C Bainbridge, Mrs L E Clubley, J M Englefield,
Mrs C L A Hockley and Mrs K Mandry

Also Present: Councillor I Bastable, Executive Member for Streetscene, (for item 6(1))



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 26 January 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no chairman's announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

(1) Award of Contract - Corporate Cleaning Services

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor I J Bastable, Executive Member for Streetscene, addressed the Panel on this item.

In discussing this item, the Executive Member confirmed that the Corporate Cleaning Services contract will be monitored to ensure that the expected service standards are being achieved.

(2) Asset Management Plan for Streetscene 2023-2028

There were no questions or comments for clarification in respect of this item.

(3) Streetscene Sustainable Pesticide Use

There were no questions or comments for clarification in respect of this item.

7. OPPORTUNITIES PLAN 2023-2027

The Panel received a presentation which provided members with an overview of the Council's Opportunities Plan and how the Year 1 project proposals relate to the Streetscene Portfolio. A copy of the presentation slides is attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

Members commented that the Plan does not identify any savings that could be made from the Civic Offices building and were advised that the longer term

use of the Civic Offices is a separate piece of work that is being undertaken that includes other Council owned buildings.

The Panel was interested to hear what changes might be made to the service provision in maintaining cemeteries. Members were advised that investigations will be made to assess what other cemeteries are doing to encourage a more natural, wild life environment and whether this would produce any savings.

It was felt that providing a paid garden maintenance service to elderly residents could be popular as it may be easier and safer than sourcing privately. It was noted however that in order to provide this service, there would need to be resources available to meet demand and that high demand would most likely coincide with times when the service is already very busy.

RESOLVED that the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel notes the content of the presentation.

8. CLIP AND COLLECT GARDEN WASTE SERVICE UPDATE

The Panel considered a report by the Head of Streetscene which provided members with an overview of the operation and performance of the Garden Waste Clip and Collect Service since its introduction in February 2022.

Members were provided with an update on the current number of subscribers to the service following a campaign throughout June to increase the number of subscribers. For the period 26/6/23 to 30/6/23 a further 262 sign ups were achieved (76 140 litre bins & 186 240 litre bins), representing an additional income for the above period of £16,270.

Revised table as of 30/6/23

Subscription Option		Income to FBC
140L	287	£15,785
240L	795	£51,675
Total	1082	£67,460

This brings the number of active subscribers to 20,330.

Following the success of the campaign, consideration will be given to whether further promotions are needed to boost sales during August.

RESOLVED that the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel notes the content of the presentation.

9. STREETSCENE SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

Members discussed the Scrutiny Priorities for the Panel.

In discussing the Scrutiny Priorities, it was noted that many items on the plan have not been covered since 2019, however no further priorities were identified for inclusion in the Plan at the present time.

RESOLVED that the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel considered the Scrutiny Priorities.

(The meeting started at 6.03 pm
and ended at 7.05 pm).

OPPORTUNITIES PLAN

2023-2027

Update June 2023

Agenda

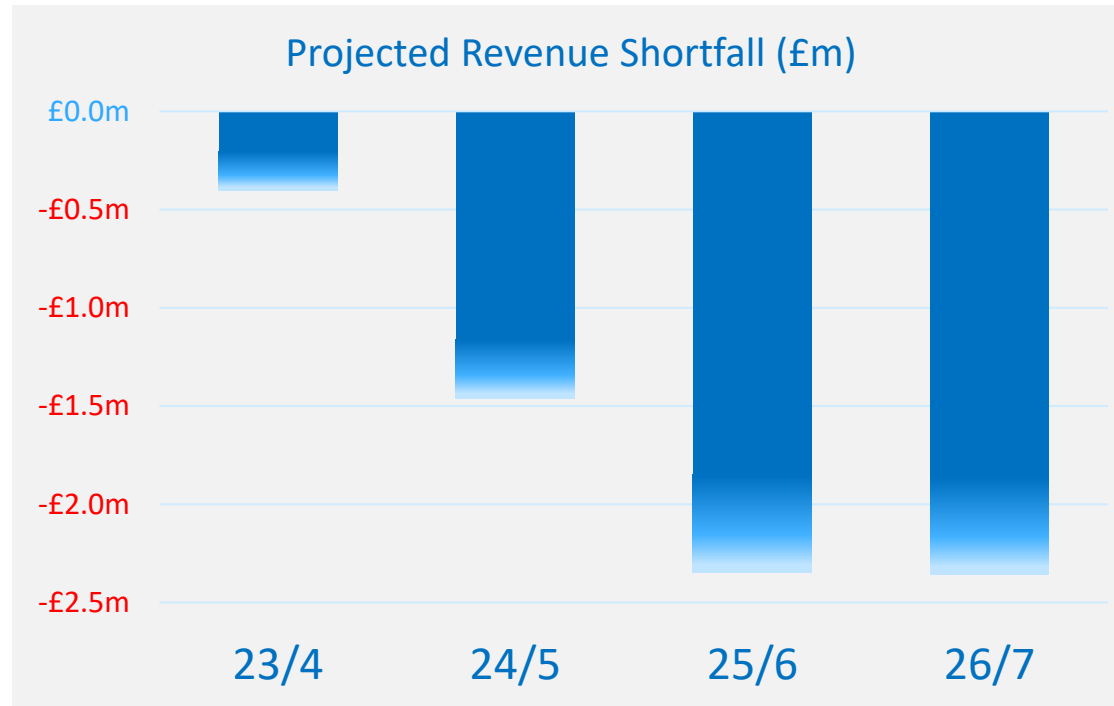
1. Opportunities Plan background reminder
2. Overview of Opportunities Plan development
3. Significant project proposals by Scrutiny Panel area
4. Next steps

Background

MTFS Five Year Outlook

- Shortfall of £401k this year, rising to £2.4m by 2026
- Known and quantifiable variables allowed for
- New priorities (e.g. Climate Change, Town Centre Regeneration) not allowed for

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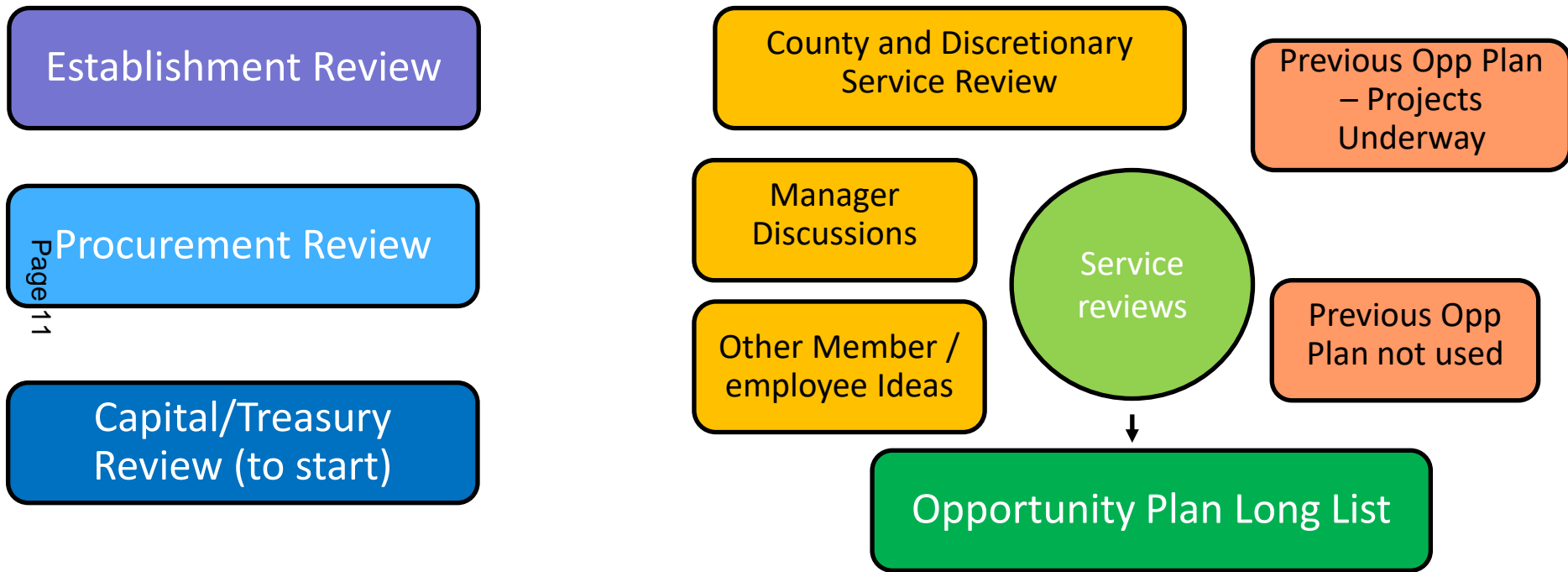


Messages

- January Executive and All Member Briefing:
 - Approved Medium Term Financial Strategy and assumptions
 - Estimated budget gaps/reserves
 - Budget gap not a fixed figure and will regularly change
- Late February:
 - Briefing note to Members and Managers
 - Outlined approach to closing the budget gap

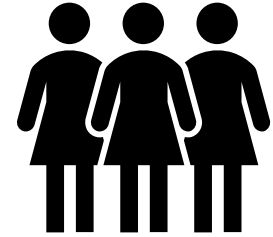
Approach to Close the Gap

Overall Plan Development Approach



Establishment Review

- Strategic Council wide approach to review
- Identified a number of potential posts:
 - Currently vacant
 - Fixed term where funding has finished
 - Over filled posts compared to establishment
 - Service review suggestions
- Each assessed on a risk rating
- Possible additional 'invest to save' posts to support some Opportunities Projects



Procurement Review

Planned Market Testing (BAU)

- Large capital projects e.g. Fareham Live – will always explore value engineering opportunities
- Supplier contracts:
 - Are they good value for money?
 - Has the contract expired?
 - Can we do this another way or in house?
 - Test the market

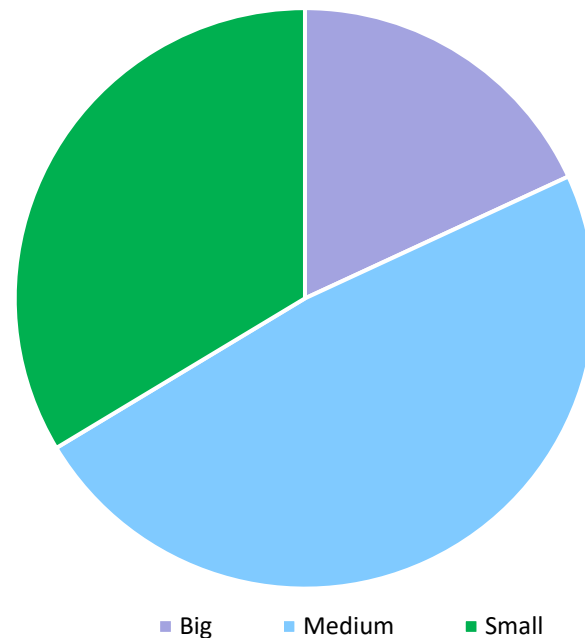


High Spend with no planned market testing

Service Reviews

Developing the Plan: Service Reviews

- Discussions with Directors, Heads of Service, service leads and CXMT
- Around 250 potential opportunities captured
- Projects vary greatly in scale
- Main focus of the plan is on year 1 projects
- Around 60 projects already started



Financial Projections

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- Estimating for each project:
 - Cashable income and savings (GF/HRA/one off)
 - Officer time savings
- Challenging to accurately estimate for some projects
- 60% with figures at the moment
- Estimates are compared to what is in the 2023/24 base budget

Opps Plan – Part 1

- Business as Usual

- Already Started

Projects proposed for Year 1

Also...

- Projects planned for Year 2
- Projects not in plan

Long List Value - Part 1

Scale of Project	No. of Ideas	No. with value	Annual Saving GF £'000s	Annual Saving HRA £'000s	Non-Annual £'000s	Non-Cashable £'000s
Business as usual	13	10	£401	£0	£175	£0
Already started	39	30	£800	£38	£3,855	£18
Projects proposed for Year 1	87	46	£414	£3	£330	£38
Total	139	86	£1,615	£41	£4,360	£56

Part 1 Proposals

Year 1



- Green Waste:
 - Renewals
 - Marketing
 - Recurring payments
- Vehicle replacement programme
- Biodiversity Net Gain Credits
- Grounds maintenance arrangements

Year 1



- Agency costs review
- Maintenance arrangements with sports clubs
- Domestic waste partnership

Year 2

- Trade waste sale & charging policy
- Textile kerb collection
- Countryside costs and income opportunities
- Highways verge maintenance



Year 2



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- Hire of open spaces – bin charges
- In Bloom & Green Flag competitions
- Government return scheme
- Cemetery maintenance standard
- Sport pitch maintenance

Year 2



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- Sport pitch and pavilion asset review
- Toilet provision
- Services for the elderly
- Future use of depot

ALL



- Legal Service costs
- Agency contract margin
- Overtime/ Allowance review
- Finance system automation
- Debt Recovery Vision
- Health and Safety Inspections
- Systems Thinking next steps

Next Steps

Next Steps

1. Finalise financial estimates for each bigger project where possible
2. June/July: Presentations to summer Scrutiny Panels/other Committees
 - Also key year 2 projects
 - Unplanned / unpalatable not included yet
 - Any priority changes / additional member ideas
3. Resourcing the Plan review / additional resources
4. September Executive: Update and confirm Year 1 Opportunities Plan
5. Refresh MTFS projections

QUESTIONS & IDEAS



