

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 13 July 2020

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WARD(S): All

PORTFOLIO: Councillor Akram,
Lead Member for Governance and Customer Services

PART I **NON-KEY DECISION**

CORPORATE ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

1 Purpose of Report

To provide Cabinet with the Corporate Annual Report for the 2019/20 financial year including:

- Case studies to illustrate the change the Council has brought about for people who live and work in Slough
- Key achievements against each of the five outcomes areas in the Five Year Plan
- Performance against the indicators included in the Corporate Balanced Scorecard

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

Cabinet is requested to note the Council's progress during the 2019/20 financial year as demonstrated through the key achievements against the Five Year Plan.

3 The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

(a) Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

The report supports the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy by detailing how the Council has performed against its priority outcomes as follows:

- Protecting vulnerable children
- Increasing life expectancy by focussing on inequalities
- Improving mental health and wellbeing
- Housing

(b) Five Year Plan Outcomes

The report supports each of the Five Year Plan outcomes by detailing how the Council has performed against its priority outcomes, as evidenced in the performance balanced scorecard and gold projects reporting. The outcomes are:

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- Our residents will live in good quality homes
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications.

(b) Risk Management

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities
Legal	N/A	N/A
Property	N/A	N/A
Human Rights	N/A	N/A
Health and Safety	N/A	N/A
Employment Issues	N/A	N/A
Equalities Issues	N/A	N/A
Community Support	N/A	N/A
Communications	N/A	N/A
Community Safety	N/A	N/A
Financial	N/A	N/A
Timetable for delivery	N/A	N/A
Project Capacity	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act or other legal implications.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There is no identified need for the completion of an EIA.

5 Supporting Information

5.1. This is the annual report to Cabinet detailing the Corporate Annual Report of the Council, detailing progress made in the 2019/20 financial year.

5.2. Please refer to the attached Corporate Annual Report, which summarises progress against the Council's priorities in the 2019/20 financial year.

Case studies

5.3. The aim of this section of the report is to bring to life some of the activities that the Council has undertaken during the 2019/20 financial year, and to communicate the impact that those activities had on people who live or work in Slough

5.4. The case studies have been selected to highlight innovation in response to challenges faced in Slough and where the innovative activity inherently enhances citizen participation and experience

5.5. Each story is communicated in a similar format including the challenge faced, how the Council are tackling it, the impact Council activities have had on the issue, and any next steps that will take place in the 2020/21 financial year or beyond

5.6. The three stories highlighted in the report are:

- *I-Talk*, which introduced Early Language Lead Practitioners into early years setting to focus on supporting people to deliver speech and language therapy
- *Co-Production Network*, which has been established to enhance the link between health and social care services and the people who use those services
- *The Creative Academy*, which is a unique partnership between the Council and the University of West London offering full-time vocational dance training

Key achievements

5.7. This section of the report details the Council's activities during the 2019/20 financial year against each of the five outcome areas included in the 2020-2025 Five Year Plan.

5.8. The list of key activities and achievements is then further supported by performance information against the five outcome areas as detailed in the Corporate Balanced Scorecard, which is included in Section 6 of the report.

5.9. *Outcome 1: Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy, and successful.* The following list summarises some of the achievements included in this section of the Corporate Annual Report 2019/20. The Corporate Annual Report is attached.

- Schools performance:
 - Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils are above the national average at KS2, and the gaps between disadvantaged and all other pupils are smaller than the national average. At KS4, outcomes for disadvantaged pupils are above the national average, and the gap between disadvantaged and all other pupils is smaller than the national average.
 - The proportion of good and outstanding schools in the Slough is 92%, which is above the national average of 86%.
 - Standards in key measures are above national average in EYFSP, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4.

- 'I Talk' - We have reduced the number of children at risk of language delay through the continued delivery of the 'I talk' language and communication programme by our early years service
- 'Young Readers' - The Summer Reading Challenge 2019, which was called Space Chase and celebrated 50 years since we landed on the moon, attracted 3,604 children – an increase of 18.7% on last year.
- 'Digital Home Learning' - February 2020 saw the launch of a home learning function activated on the iConnect system, which was already used by staff to record children's observations, learning journeys and assessments
- 'Active Movement' - We introduced the Active Movement programme across all 10 children's centres. The programme has also been implemented by 7 early year providers.
- Early Years Foundation Stage - This year, we achieved a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage above the national average for the third year consecutive year.

5.10. *Outcome 2: Our people will be healthier and will manage their own care needs.* The following list summarises some of the achievements included in this section of the Corporate Annual Report 2019/20. The Corporate Annual Report is attached.

- 'A Good Start in Life' - To ensure a good start in life for slough children, we have launched the new 'Lift the Baby' safe sleeping campaign on behalf of Berkshire, with the aim of reducing the number of baby deaths
- 'Healthy Smiles' - In 2018-2019, we commissioned the 'Slough Healthy Smiles' project aimed at tackling Slough children's poor oral health by deliver information sessions on tooth brushing and good oral health provision for early year staff
- Immunisations - A new Immunisation Partnership group with representatives from Slough Public Health, NHS England, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, The East Berkshire CCG and the Berkshire shared Public Health team has been developed
- Mental wellbeing - In February 2020, we delivered the Loneliness and Social Isolation Conference in partnership with local faith groups and the voluntary sector. In addition, we have been collaborating with other councils across Berkshire to launch the 'Bereaved by Suicide Service'
- Health Beliefs - We have completed the Health Beliefs research project, which aims to provide an in-depth analysis of Slough Residents and will help inform and shape local activities

5.11. *Outcome 3: Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work, and stay.* The following list summarises some of the achievements included in this section of the Corporate Annual Report 2019/20. The Corporate Annual Report is attached.

- Paradise Gardens - this spot, now at the corner of St. Ethelbert's Church, is the result of a joint initiative between SBC and St. Ethelbert's Church after a successful application for the Pocket Park Plus funding programme.

- Modern Slavery is Closer Than You Think - In June 2019, the Safer Slough Partnership's Modern Slavery campaign, which was launched in October 2018, won the prestigious Outdoor Media award for Social Impact. During the time of the campaign, calls to the Modern Slavery Helpline from Slough increased by 400%.
- Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods - This year, the initiative has focused on Chalvey, with a view of developing a model to roll out a cross Slough. Throughout the year, there has been considerable engagement with the community and partners as well as undertaking a needs analysis and data insight exercise to develop an informed view of Chalvey needs and priorities.
- Air Quality - We created AirTEXT, a new air quality webpage that provides unique air quality information service designed to send free pollution alerts and health advice by text, email or voicemail on days of elevated air pollution.

5.12. *Outcome 4: Our residents will live in good quality homes.* The following list summarises some of the achievements included in this section of the Corporate Annual Report 2019/20. The Corporate Annual Report is attached.

- Homelessness Prevention - The number of households successfully helped by our Housing team before they became homeless (known as prevention cases) increased by 42% this year. The team managed to secure accommodation for a total of 329 households at risk of homelessness.
- Rough sleepers – The official count of people sleeping rough reduced from 27 to 25. In addition people who had been sleeping rough were housed permanently or temporarily at the outset of the Covid 19 pandemic.
- Planning new homes - We have jointly commissioned, along with Windsor & Maidenhead and Buckinghamshire, the final part of the Wider Area Growth Study, which will recommend where Slough's unmet housing needs can best be met.
- Affordable Homes - In partnership with Slough Urban Renewal, we invested over £5,500,000 to develop a number of affordable homes, including 5 flats on Pendeen Court, 4 houses on Morerton Way, 6 houses on Fox Road, 4 houses on Mansel Close, 3 disabled adapted bungalows on Brook Path, and 3 houses on Trelawney Avenue.
- Extra Care Housing - To help meet the acute need for such accommodation in Slough, our Housing and Adult Social Care services collaborated to reach a commercial agreement with GP for the delivery of new Extra Care Scheme homes in Chalvey. The designs have been completed and the process of tender and award of the contract to construct over 50 new extra care flats is underway.

5.13. *Outcome 5: Slough will attract, retain, and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents.* The following list summarises some of the achievements included in this section of the Corporate Annual Report 2019/20. The Corporate Annual Report is attached.

- Planning Applications - We have continued to issue quality planning decisions in a timely manner, with 84% of applications being approved and the majority of our decisions upheld at appeal

- Link to Heathrow - The work on phase 2 of the MRT scheme to connect Slough with Heathrow has commenced, with £7.65m of funds secured from the Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership for the Stoke Road Regen project.
- Sustainable Travel - As part of our ongoing commitment to boosting our local economy and supporting businesses and residential communities, we have secured £500,000 for the Access Fund activities designed to encourage residents and visitors to the borough to travel more sustainably. The fund is designed with the aim of improving the health and wellbeing of Slough residents while enhancing access to jobs, education and training.
- Hospitality - We invested £39m to bring the Marriott International's millennial-focused brand Moxy to the heart of Slough. The new hotel on the site of the old Slough library opposite The Curve will be completed in early 2021. Along side the hotel is a housing block that will provide additional homes to local residents.

Budget

- 5.14. A section is included in the Annual Report, which is a summary position against budget for the 2019/20 financial year
- 5.15. The Council is reporting an under spend of £0.05m for the 2019/20 financial year.
- 5.16. The provisional outturn is greater than the revised budget for Adult & Communities; Place & Development; Children, Learning & Skills, and the Chief Executive's Office. The provisional outturn is lower than the revised budget for Regeneration; Finance & Resources, and Non-Departmental Services
- 5.17. 92.8% of income is derived from Council Tax (53.8%) and Non-Domestic Rates (39.0%). 76.0% of net expenditure is spent within Adults & Communities (38.1%) and Children, Learning & Skills (37.9%)

Corporate Balanced Scorecard

- 5.18. A section is included in the Annual Report, which is a copy of the Corporate Balanced Scorecard presented to Cabinet following Quarter 4 of the 2019/20 financial year.
- 5.19. By the end of the 2019/20 financial year, 58% (11) of the 19 key performance indicators (KPIs) with agreed targets are performing either at or better than target. 26% (5) indicators are performing marginally worse than target but above the red KPI threshold. 16% (3) indicators are performing below the red KPI threshold.
- 5.20. In relation to overall trend, in the final quarter of the 2019/20 financial year performance had improved for 45% (10) of the 22 KPIs, remained the same for 14% (3) and declined for 41% (9).

6. Comments of Other Committees

6.1. None.

7. Conclusion

7.1. The annual report provides Cabinet with a summary of achievements over the past year including the impact of the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic and the way in which the Council responded. Despite the unprecedented nature of this challenge the report provides an extensive range of examples of case studies, achievements and performance data to evidence solid progress towards delivery of the Five Year Plan outcomes.

8 Appendices Attached

- Annual Report 2019/20

9 Background Papers

None