Council Performance Report – Development and Economic Growth

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE - No. of Success Measures: 8

Period: FQ2 19/20

Green 8

Red 0

No Data 0

Delivering Our Outcomes

Corporate Outcome 5 - Our economy is diverse and thriving

BO110 We support businesses, employment and development opportunities

1. Maintain a Local Development Plan Less Than Five Years Old: A key milestone was achieved in progression of LDP2 which will replace the current LDP. The proposed LDP2 was agreed at Full Council in September and will now go out for a statutory public consultation period over the winter months. Following that any objections will be reported to Council prior to being submitted to a Scottish Government reporter who will carry out an examination of the Plan. After that process the Council will be able to adopt it as a replacement LDP2. The timescale for delivery has been revised for adoption of the plan by 31st January 2021.

Our Challenges

Current Short-term Operational Challenges [Include Service id]

Development and Economic Growth (DEG)

- 1. Professional staff resource is an issue within Development Management and Regulatory Services and will impact on future performance. In Development Management, Helensburgh and Lomond continues to be depleted by a long-term absence and impact upon performance been exacerbated during August / September by periods of annual leave and short periods of sick leave by other staff members. Recruitment of a 0.5fte Planning Officer post is currently underway and will provide greater resilience to in the medium/longer term. Within Regulatory Services there are 5 vacancies (4.5 FTE) and attempts to recruit professional qualified Environmental health professionals have been largely unsuccessful reflecting the national shortage. Contingency measures are in place to minimise the impact although performance will dip.
- 2. The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 was approved by Scottish Parliament and received Royal Assent in July 2019; the Scottish Government have published their programme for implementation of the various provisions of the Act on 30th September 2019. The Act will introduce a number of new/amended duties which will require revision to current Development Management (DM) processes, and in some cases will have resource implications.
- 3. Work is ongoing to develop a Scottish model for exporting foods to the EU in the event of a 'no deal' Brexit. A Business case has been developed in conjunction with COSLA to Scottish Ministers outlining issues relating to the export of food to EU including financial support for business and local authorities. The export model, capacity and resilience concerns and a proposals for a charging regime. There are significant risks from a 2no-deal" EU Exit, as the current environmental health service does not have capacity to deal with projected demand for expert certificates, without core duties being paused or the quality of service reduced

Current Key Challenges and Actions to address the Challenges

Key Challenges and Actions to address the Challenges (DEG)

BO102 We provide support, prevention and opportunities to help people make better lifestyle choices.

1. **Challenge** - Deliver the outcomes defined in the Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) within the agreed milestones.

Action Detail - To continue to deliver core public health actions through the work of Regulatory Services and where appropriate, working with our partners. This includes better directing our resources more effectively to meet the statutory framework for food authorities, and to complete the actions required from the FSS audit.

Carried Forward From Previous Quarter:	Action Milestone Dates:	Responsible Person:
N	Dec 2019	Regulatory Services Manager/
		Environmental Health Manager
		(West/East)

Key Challenges and Actions to address the Challenges (DEG)

BO110 We Support Businesses, Employment and Development Opportunities.

2. Challenge - Update and Improve our Conservation Area Appraisal Coverage. Continuing to deliver 2 conservation area appraisals in the absence of the conservation officer who was on maternity leave until January 2019. Cover arrangements had been planned within the LDP team, but workload pressure within the LDP work (as above) and the extended length of consultation period that was required for the Slate Island Conservation Area Appraisals means that the planned timetable of work slipped. In addition it is now necessary for the Design and Conservation officer to support the development policy team writing the Proposed LDP2.

Action Detail - Helensburgh Conservation Area was approved by PPSL and designated by Council in September. Slate Islands and Lochgilphead Conservation Area Appraisals are scheduled for presentation to PPSL for approval before the end of 2019.

Carried Forward From Previous Quarter:	Action Milestone Dates:	Responsible Person:
Υ	FQ4 19/20	Senior Planning and Strategies Officer

Key Challenges and Actions to address the Challenges

BO112 Argyll and Bute is Promoted to Everyone

3. Challenge – Delivery of Town Centre Fund projects.

Action Detail – The Town Centre Fund requires to be spent 2019/20 or at the very least a contract awarded by 31 March 2020 for each of the projects. Monthly reporting is in place to assist in highlighting any key issues that need to be addressed and particular if any projects are at risk of not being delivered however delivery is still challenging given the short timelines and also given that these projects are all being taken forward within existing resources.

Carried Forward From Previous Quarter:	Action Milestone Dates:	Responsible Person:
Υ	FQ4 19/20	Head of Development and Economic
		Growth/Head of Roads and

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	Infrastructure Services