



CAI.27 15/16

Challenge and Improvement
Committee

19 November 2015

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Subject: Progress and Delivery Report – Projects – 2nd Period Report – April to September 2015

Report by:

Chief Operating Officer

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

This report deals with the progress and delivery of projects which are aimed at the delivery of the corporate plan. This sets out the information that the principal policy committees have had on the progress and delivery of projects.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1) That the committee examine the responses given to the report by the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee and the Prosperous Communities Committee and assure themselves that the appropriate level of challenge is being made by those committees to the information contained in the report.**

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None arising from this report

Financial : FIN / REF / 95 / 16 None

Staffing : None arising from this report

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: None arising from this report.

Risk Assessment : None arising from this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities : None arising from this report

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

Yes

No

Key Decision:

Yes

No

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Councillors have received progress and delivery reports since 2012. They have sought to give councillors information on how the council is performing through its services, project delivery and finances. This has given councillors the opportunities to question officers on performance and ensure that any rectification measures proposed to remedy poor performance are sufficient to tackle the issues identified.
- 1.2 This report is about the projects the council is delivering in order to meet the objectives of the corporate plan.
- 1.3 For clarity and in order to comply with the council's project management requirements only those projects which are in the "delivery stage" will be reported through this mechanism.
- 1.4 In addition from time to time projects are rescope and their timelines changed during the delivery phase to take account of alterations in the projects operating environment. That can mean that their status can change. Where this happens when a project was red in a previous progress and delivery report (at significant risk of not delivering either to the timetable or within budget) this will be reported to members through this mechanism: together with an explanation of why the project has been rescope and new time lines set.

2.0 The Report

- 2.1 This report covers the period from April to September 2015 and will include reference to those projects which were covered in the first progress and delivery report. It is a report whilst being "by exception" will contain information on projects that are current during the reporting period. The report will focus on those projects which are at risk of not delivering their outcomes.

3.0 Update on First Period Report

3.1 Selective Licensing

- 3.2 Selective licensing has featured in the projects part of the progress and delivery reports recently as it has been off track and unlikely to deliver within the previously agreed timescale.
- 3.3 The council has been developing a project to introduce a "selective licensing scheme" in part of the south west ward of Gainsborough over the last two years.
- 3.4 Selective licensing is an area which has been subject to litigation in areas where councils have sought to introduce it. This council has been monitoring the case law around selective licensing as it has developed. This has meant that certain stages in the delivery of the

selective licensing scheme have had to be revised in the light of judgements of the courts to take account of the risks.

- 3.5 Whilst in the last projects progress and delivery report selective licensing was reported as being red (at significant risk of not being delivered within the timescale) following revisions to that timescale, to take account of the case law, it is now a green risk (on track to deliver within the revised timescale).

3.6 Rural Public Transport

- 3.7 In 2014/15 budget the council allocated circa £300k to a corporate plan priority to provide better solutions to the delivery of rural public transport at a time when budgets were being cut elsewhere. A key component of this work was that any solutions arrived at would need to be sustainable in the long term.

- 3.8 This project was part of the progress and delivery report for the last round of reporting in June 2015. At that's stage in was an amber risk (at moderate risk of not delivering within the timescale or budget) due to the time being taken to research alternative solutions to the delivery of rural public transport.

- 3.9 The consultant's report into the options available to the council has now been received and considered by the council's growth board. The actions arising from this report now need to be scoped and the delivery project around this work implemented.

- 3.10 In view of this the project will be given a green rating and a new timeline for the delivery of the work agreed through the council's governance process.

3.11 "Flare in the field" - Comet

- 3.12 In order to fully deliver its "agile" programme the council needs an ICT solution for officers to be able to access council systems and deliver services in the field.

- 3.13 The council has been developing a system based on a product known as "Comet" provided through the Flare system which is offered by Civica.

- 3.14 The system has been piloted in the planning service; however it's use has not been adopted and has taken a number of years to develop so far. There is a need to finally "prove" the system in the field and roll out its use to all field based officers.

- 3.15 As with other systems which the council has developed a decision now needs to be made on whether Comet can actually deliver what the services need or whether a decision to end the development of this system and reset the project to examine alternative solution is needed.

This decision will be taken through the council's governance process in the next cycle of meetings.

4.0 New Projects off Track in this Period

4.1 Proposed bungalows – Land off Corringham Road, Gainsborough

4.2 A proposal was developed with a partner to develop bungalows on land owned by the council at Corringham Road in Gainsborough. This project has been subject to delay which means it is a red risk in terms of progress and delivery.

4.3 As part of the work to develop the project (following approval by members and the grant of planning permission) to a point where construction could start, further analysis of the costs involved in delivering the scheme has been carried out. During the course of this work abnormal costs have been identified which have affected the viability of the project for the council.

4.4 It is proposed that this project is not progressed at this time due to other work priorities.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The report sets out all the projects that have been previously considered by this committee in the current year and a new one which has been identified through internal monitoring as being off track and at significant risk of not delivering either within the timescale or within the budget.

5.2 It is worth reiterating that this report is by exception and only relates to those projects which are currently in the delivery stage and are off target or have been previously reported as red or amber and the status of the project has changed.

Appendix – Definitions Used

1. Red Projects – Those at significant risk of not being delivered within the timescale set for them in the project plan or at significant risk of not delivering within the budget set for the project.
2. Amber Projects – Those projects at risk of not being delivered within the timescale set for them in the project plan or at risk of not delivering with the budget set for the project.
3. Green Projects (not reported) – On track to deliver in accordance with the project plan and on budget.

6 Policy Committee Consideration

- 6.1 This report has been considered by both the Policy Committees and the relevant minute from each is attached.
- 6.2 Extract from Prosperous Communities Cttee – 29 October 2015

54 PROGRESS AND DELIVERY (PROJECTS) – PERIOD 2 (PRCC.28 15/16)

Members gave consideration to the second of the newly styled Progress and Delivery reports for 2015/16, which dealt with the projects.

The Chief Operating Officer reminded Members that the Progress and Delivery reports were by exception only, either above or below target, and only reported on those projects currently in delivery stage which were regularly monitored.

The report contained updates on the items contained in the previous report and introduced one new item.

- Selective Licensing was now on track to deliver within the revised timescale.
- Rural Public Transport had earlier been considered by the Prosperous Communities Committee and was now deemed back on track.
- Flare in the Field and Comet – work was ongoing to resolve IT issues, and a report was due through the next governance cycle.
- The bungalows on Corringham Road has encountered unforeseen difficulties so were not being progressed.

RESOLVED that that having given consideration to the matters listed in the report, assurance was received that the rectifications proposed would deal with identified issues.

- 6.3 Extract from Policy and Resources Cttee – 27 October 2015.

39 PROGRESS AND DELIVERY - PROJECTS - PERIOD 2 (CPR.26 15/16)

The Chief Operating Officer reminded Members that the Progress and Delivery reports were by exception only, either above or below target, and only reported on those projects currently in delivery stage which were regularly monitored.

The report contained updates on the items contained in the previous report and introduced one new item.

- Selective Licensing was now on track to deliver within the revised timescale.
- Rural Public Transport was scheduled to be considered by the Prosperous Communities Committee.
- Flare in the Field and Comet – work was ongoing to resolve IT issues, and a report was due through the next governance cycle.
- The bungalows on Corringham Road has encountered unforeseen difficulties so were not being progressed.

RESOLVED that having given consideration to the matters listed in the report, assurance was received that the rectifications proposed would deal with identified issues.