

Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020 – Significant Governance Areas

Quarter 4 update - April 2020 to March 2021

Areas identified in 2019/2020	Actions	Quarter 4 Progress
<p>COVID-19 pandemic</p> <p>The council will continue to respond to matters arising from the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>The council will continue to monitor national guidance; maintain ongoing resilience arrangements; and implement further measures as and when required in response to the pandemic.</p> <p>A recovery working group has been established with the remit to develop a council recovery plan for implementation.</p> <p>The plan will focus on the following four themes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Services; • Business Support; • Health and Social Care Partnership; and • Community Groups <p>Corporate and Resource risk registers will continue to be monitored and updated to reflect national and local developments.</p>	<p>COVID-19 implications, response and Recovery Plans were included in the 2020/2021 Resource Plans approved for each Resource and updates were provided to Resource Committees at Q2 and 4. Corporate and Resource Risk registers continue to be monitored and updates as required to reflect national and local developments. Weekly updates have been provided to the Corporate Management Team.</p> <p>Monthly Resource and Service Updates were provided to the Political Group Leaders meeting until formal meetings were re-established.</p>
<p>Brexit</p> <p>Impact of the UK leaving the European Union on the council</p>	<p>The potential implications for the council in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding and finance; • Workforce and employment; • Procurement and trade; • Legislation; and • Support to local businesses 	<p>Work is ongoing to update the council's procurement arrangements. The Find a Tender Service is up and running and in terms of documentation, the Instruction for Tenderers, Report on Tenders, evaluation and negotiated templates have all been updated and we are now looking at potential amendments required to Standing Orders.</p> <p>Supply chain/pricing issues: there have been no reported issues in respect of supply chain or pricing for the Council's own contracts. In respect of Scotland Excel</p>

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	<p>have been considered and the council will continue to closely monitor the situation with contingency arrangements being implemented where required.</p>	<p>frameworks, construction materials in general and timber supplies specifically are under significant supply pressure, due to a combination of the pandemic and EU Exit impacts. A price uplift related to EU Exit has been requested from a supplier of street lighting materials operating through a Scotland Excel framework. No confirmation of price increases to date.</p> <p>In respect of the Council's food contracts, there are no current supply chain issues and no exceptional price increases have been requested. Some future price increases expected on catering sundries due to shortage of shipping containers.</p> <p>The National Co-ordination Centre (NCC) as facilitated by Police Scotland continues to function on a seven-day basis and is expected to do so until the beginning of April 2021.</p> <p>Refreshed EU Exit Planning Assumptions (February 2021) as prepared by the Cabinet Office have been shared via the West of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership. These assumptions cover the initial period after the end of the Transition Period only, up to March 2021, although some assumptions are unlikely to change significantly after this period.</p> <p>Local Resilience Partnerships have not been tasked to revisit any assessments made around civil emergency impacts arising from EU Exit or concurrent risks more generally in light of the refreshed Planning Assumptions.</p> <p>Continuing to monitor any potential loss of funding distribution from UK Shared Prosperity Fund.</p> <p>Overall monitoring of the risk posted by EU Exit is continuing.</p>

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I.T Infrastructure Migration of computer systems to an external provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct procurement to identify and award contract for external hosting services. • Complete planning for migration of all computer systems from Caird Data Centre. • Complete preparatory work to set up new network hubs. • Commence move of IT systems to new provider. 	<p>Procurement has been completed in identifying and awarding a contract to Datavita for external hosting services.</p> <p>Migration planning of all computer systems from Caird Data Centre is well advanced with completion due in Quarter 1, 2021/2022.</p> <p>The Network Hub set-up has been completed and work is planned to start the move of IT systems in Quarter 1 2021-22.</p>
Cyber Resilience Compliance with legislative and regulatory policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining Public Sector Network (PSN) accreditation and instilling an ethos of ongoing compliance. • Continued compliance and accreditation to Cyber Essentials Plus. • Moving forward working towards the guidelines outlined within the Scottish Public Sector Cyber Resilience Framework. • Continued awareness training for all SLC staff around the area of Cyber Resilience. 	<p>The PSN and Cyber Essentials Plus Certification have been achieved.</p> <p>Work is ongoing with the implementation of the Cyber Resilience Framework and for Cyber Scotland Week 2021. A news item was published each day on the council's intranet (My Works) covering a different area of cyber security.</p>

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<p>Participatory Budgeting 1% of the council's budget to be subject to Participatory Budgeting</p>	<p>By 2021 all Scottish councils are required to commit 1% of their budget to Participatory Budgeting (with the "council budget" being defined as the council's Total Estimated Expenditure (TEE) less Assumed Council Tax Income both taken from the Government's Finance Settlement).</p> <p>Councillor's awareness sessions have been conducted and a webinar made available for councillors.</p> <p>Further update reports will be submitted to committee.</p>	<p>The Executive Committee approved a report in March 2021 on Participatory Budgeting which approved plans to roll out PB over a number of services.</p> <p>This will allow the council to progress to meeting the commitment of 1% of our budgets being subject to Participatory Budgeting.</p>
<p>Financial Challenges Reduction in council funding, resulting in difficulties maintaining front line services</p>	<p>The council faces a challenging situation in the medium to long-term because of reduced funding in real terms, rising costs and an increase in demand.</p> <p>The council has developed a long-term strategy which identifies budget pressures, future risks and uncertainties, and projects budget gaps to 2028-29.</p> <p>The Budget Strategy for 2021-22 will be updated and presented to councillors during autumn 2020.</p>	<p>The 2021-22 budget was approved by Members at the council meeting held on 24 February 2021.</p> <p>Costs associated with the pandemic have been met from funding provided by the Scottish Government and we will continue to monitor the financial impact of the pandemic into 2021-22 and beyond.</p>

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<p>GDPR</p> <p>Compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</p>	<p>GDPR came into effect on 25 May 2018. The council is progressing its GDPR action plan and has appointed a Data Protection Officer; approved an Information Security Policy; completed an information audit; and delivered internal and external training.</p> <p>The council is currently in the process of developing and implementing a new file plan system to provide a greater level of control over the management of all data held by the council. Stage One was completed December 2018 and Stage Two is ongoing and work is taking place to implement a case management system to be used by Councillors.</p> <p>Work is ongoing to improve performance relating to requests for information. An action plan has been developed and is being implemented. This is being monitored by the Senior Management Team.</p>	<p>The UK GDPR replaced the GDPR on 1 January 2021 although the obligations on the council remain unchanged. The council will be re-assessing its UK GDPR action plan through the Information Governance Board after the summer.</p> <p>Owing to staff changes and the onset of the current pandemic (with diversion of resources) work on the EDRMS and Councillors Case Management System has not progressed as much as originally envisaged. Options are currently being considered for moving forward and an update will be provided to the Project Review Board during the next few weeks.</p> <p>Work on the implementation of the action plan to improve performance in relation to information requests is ongoing but has been delayed due to the pandemic.</p>
<p>Integrated Joint Board – Health and Social Care</p> <p>The need for the council to deliver the objectives set out in the Integrated Joint Board (IJB) Strategic Commissioning Plan 2019 to 2022</p>	<p>The current strategic direction set out and approved by the IJB is detailed within the Strategic Commissioning Plan. The council and NHS Board are required to deploy their resources in line with this strategic direction.</p> <p>The IJB issues Directions that set out the key actions to be delivered by the council during the year 2020/2021 and these Directions were agreed by the IJB at its special budget meeting in March 2020.</p> <p>The council will provide progress updates</p>	<p>The Strategic Commissioning Plan (SCP) and the issue of Directions to the Health Board and the Local Authority for the financial year 2020/2021 was approved on 30 March 2020. Update reports were provided to the IJB on 5 May 2020, 30 June 2020, 29 September 2020 and 8 December 2020.</p> <p>The IJB have acknowledged the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on each partner's ability to implement the strategic commissioning intentions and the Directions as originally planned.</p> <p>Directions were agreed by the IJB at its special budget</p>

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	against Directions for which it is the lead organisation.	meeting on 29 March 2021 for 2021/2022.
<p>Integrated Joint Board – Health and Social Care</p> <p>The need for the council to deliver improvements within Care at Home to meet regulatory requirements</p>	<p>Following inspection activity in the latter half of 2019, the Care Inspectorate identified concerns in the delivery of Care at Home services in both the Hamilton and Rutherglen/Cambuslang services.</p> <p>Improvement plans have been devised and are being progressed by the services with progress overseen by a Programme Board. Regular updates on progress are provided to the Health and Social Care Partnership Senior Management Team; the council's Senior Management Team; the Social Work Committee; and the Integrated Joint Board.</p>	<p>The Improvement notice was lifted for Hamilton on 9 October 2020 following a positive inspection. The Voluntary Moratorium in Hamilton was lifted on 16 November 2020 with the introduction of new referrals for service on an incremental basis.</p> <p>The Voluntary Moratorium was lifted in Rutherglen in discussion with the Care Inspectorate on 31 August 2020 with a new service provision introduced incrementally.</p> <p>Grades for the Hamilton inspection in October 2020 were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care and Support - 3 Adequate; • Leadership and Management - 3 Adequate; and • Staffing - 2 Weak. <p>Grades for the Rutherglen/Cambuslang inspection on 17 November 2020 were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How well to we support people's wellbeing – Good 4; • How good is our Leadership – Good 4; • How good is our Staff Team – Good 4; and • How good is our care planned – 3 Adequate • Infection/Prevention control measures/COVID-19 - Good 4. <p>Individual improvement action plans have been developed for Rutherglen and Hamilton Services which have been progressed.</p> <p>An overarching improvement plan has been developed through sessions with operational managers on 26 January 2021, 16 February 2021 and 9 March 2021.</p>

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<p>National expansion in early years education and childcare provision</p> <p>The council is likely to face challenges in acquiring the necessary physical assets and staffing levels to meet the commitments by 2020</p>	<p>The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the announcement by the Scottish Government to close all schools and educational settings from 20 March 2020 for an indefinite period will result in a delay in meeting the target dates for the full delivery of 1140 hours early learning and childcare by August 2020.</p> <p>COSLA have intimated to councils the extension given in legislation to the timeframe for the delivery of 1140 hours. This will be subject to review by the council in partnership with the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Strategic and operational plans are in place with key milestones identified in terms of infrastructure, financial, personnel, quality standards, training and recruitment and on consultation with partners and parents.</p> <p>Regular reporting mechanisms are also in place with updates provided to committee including engagement with partner providers to increase private and third sector partnership.</p>	<p>On 2 February 2021, the First Minister announced the Scottish Government's intention that Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings would re-open from 22 February.</p> <p>7,727 children are currently attending an ELC provision with 5,365 in a local authority setting and 2,362 children attending a funded provider. Currently 1,140 hours is being delivered to 86% of all eligible 2-5 year olds.</p> <p>The new build and expansion to existing nurseries in February 2021 has increased the capacity for delivering 1,140 hours of ELC and 92% of eligible children can now be accommodated.</p> <p>Regulatory inspection activity re-commenced with 'Virtual Inspections' undertaken by the Care Inspectorate. Inspection outcomes will confirm which providers are meeting the National Standard and those where improvement work is required. Outcomes reported confirm very positive outcomes for local authority establishments recently inspected.</p> <p>The central team have continued to provide virtual training opportunities, support and guidance and COVID-19 Pandemic support to all funded providers.</p>
<p>Welfare Reform</p> <p>Impact of Welfare Reform on council services</p>	<p>Regular update reports on Welfare Reform are provided to the Senior Management Team (SMT), committee and the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board to ensure effective partnership working. During the year, a Welfare Reform Workshop was held with Partners and Third Sector Organisations. As a result, the Welfare Reform information provided to the SMT and the CPP Board and the membership of the Welfare Reform Group is being reviewed.</p>	<p>Report provided to the Corporate Management Team and Tackling Poverty Forum with an update on how the impact on household income as a result of the current health pandemic has led to increased demand across a range of services and organisations and details of the support that has been provided in response.</p> <p>The review of financial advice and support will report to the Corporate Management Team on 1 April 2021.</p>

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	During 2020-21, the council will be looking at the structures and services used to support those affected by Welfare Reform.	
<p>Review of Community Planning</p> <p>Provide support to the review of Community Planning arrangements</p>	<p>During 2019, the Community Planning Partnership Board undertook a self-assessment of the current Community Planning arrangements. Improvement actions were later supplemented by the recommendations from the council's Best Value Assurance Review and a group has been set up to take these forward.</p> <p>The review group will consider several key areas including structures, governance and accountability arrangements and the council will provide resources to support the group and the implementation of the agreed actions.</p>	<p>The review group completed their work and presented a report to the CPP Board in September 2020. Following approval of this report, a two stage implementation process is now under way, with Phase 1 introducing interim working arrangements including: an Outcome Leads Group which will be in place by May 2021; a new Participation and Engagement Group which has been established and is meeting regularly; and the development of locality level community partnerships. Meetings have taken place with communities in two of the areas four localities and work is ongoing to establish the new structures.</p> <p>Phase 2 will confirm the final structures needed to deliver on the outcomes identified in the new Community Plan which will be completed in spring 2022.</p>