

CABINET- 29 September 2020

CABINET RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC RESET GROUP (Select Committee Chairmen & Vice-Chairmen's Group)

Recommendations:

The Strategic Reset Group recommends:

1. That the scenarios and assumptions presented to the group, alongside the budget reset and transformation information presented at the previous meeting, should form part of the information provided to the select committees to inform their work programmes.

Mr Chris Botten

Vice-Chairman of the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee

Cabinet Response:

We welcome the feedback from the Strategic Reset Group in this report and appreciate the efforts they made to review the macro planning assumptions being used to support the strategic reset and our plans moving forward. During these uncertain times it is challenging to make predictions about the future, so we are glad that the group were confident that our planning assumptions reflected a comprehensive picture of the potential opportunities and challenges we face as a county.

We are pleased the Strategic Reset Group endorses our view that the strategic priorities of the council need to be reset to focus on objectives that have come into sharper focus as a result of the changing context that the council is operating within. We agree with their assessment that tackling inequality should be a high priority, which is why we are looking at how this can become the single driving principle behind the council's refreshed Organisation Strategy, as it is a common thread that runs throughout each of the priority objectives that have emerged since the pandemic.

The Strategic Reset Group's support for the strategic reset process reinforces the council's ongoing commitment to be financially sustainable whilst delivering improved outcomes for our residents and communities. The group's recommendation that select committees should receive the same information to inform their work programmes is sensible and something that Cabinet endorses. This approach will help to support an effective scrutiny process during the autumn as the council develops a budget, transformation programme and business plans.

Mr Tim Oliver

Leader of the Council

29 September 2020

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