

Thurrock - An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The meeting will be held at 7.00 pm on 12 July 2022

Committee Room 2, Civic Offices 3, New Road, Grays, RM17 6SL

Membership:

Councillors Graham Snell (Chair), Paul Arnold (Vice-Chair), Adam Carter, Colin Churchman, Victoria Holloway and John Kent

Substitutes:

Councillors Alex Anderson, Gary Collins, Tony Fish, Sara Muldowney and Elizabeth Rigby

Agenda

Open to Public and Press

1 Apologies for Absence
2 Minutes 5 - 12

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 8 March 2022.

3 Items of Urgent Business

To receive additional items that the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972. To agree any relevant

4 Declaration of Interests

Report 2021/22

briefing notes submitted to the Committee.

5 Asset Review and 3Rs 13 - 74 6 End of Year (April 2021 to March 2022) Corporate Performance 75 - 96

Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:

Please contact Lucy Tricker, Senior Democratic Services Officer by sending an email to Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Agenda published on: 4 July 2022

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DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

Helpful Reminders for Members

- Is your register of interests up to date?
- In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?
- Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?

When should you declare an interest at a meeting?

- What matters are being discussed at the meeting? (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet what matter is before you for single member decision?



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.

What is a Non-Pecuniary interest? – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;
- Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and
- leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature

You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

Our Vision and Priorities for Thurrock

An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future.

- 1. **People** a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay
 - High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
 - Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
 - Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together
- 2. **Place** a heritage-rich borough which is ambitious for its future
 - Roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places
 - Clean environments that everyone has reason to take pride in
 - Fewer public buildings with better services
- 3. **Prosperity** a borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations
 - Attractive opportunities for businesses and investors to enhance the local economy
 - Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all
 - Commercial, entrepreneurial and connected public services

Minutes of the Meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 8 March 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors Susan Little (Chair), Adam Carter, Gary Collins

(substitute), John Kent, Bukky Okunade, and Graham Snell

(substitute)

Apologies: Councillors Colin Churchman (Vice-Chair) and James Halden

In attendance: Gerard McCleave, Assistant Director of Economic Growth and

Partnerships

Karen Wheeler, Director of Strategy, Engagement and Growth

Sarah Welton, Strategy Manager

Jonathan Wilson, Assistant Director of Finance Lucy Tricker, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Before the start of the Meeting, all present were advised that the meeting was being recorded, with the recording to be made available on the Council's website.

32. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

Councillor John Kent arrived – 7.02pm

33. Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

34. Declaration of Interests

There were no items of urgent business.

35. Quarter 3 (April-December 2021) Corporate Performance Report 2021/22

The Strategy Manager introduced the report and stated that it outlined the relevant Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for quarter three of 2021/22. She explained that any missed targets were accompanied by a 'route to green' narrative, and although it was difficult to predict the future regarding COVID-19, officers hoped that those KPIs which had been impacted would begin to improve with the lifting of restrictions.

Councillor Okunade questioned the KPI regarding litter on page 19 of the agenda and asked how the KPI was measured. The Strategy Manager explained that the KPI regarding litter was measured using a random, independent survey which looked at different areas of Thurrock on a regular

basis, including residential areas, town centres and industrial land. She stated that this survey determined whether or not litter levels were at an acceptable level across the borough. She stated that the figures for this KPI tended to be higher during the summer months, but the KPI had been met. The Chair felt it would be interesting to see a breakdown of the litter levels by ward, and the Strategy Manager replied that this could be provided to the Committee outside of the meeting, as well as information as to how the Council was encouraging people not to drop litter.

Councillor Collins highlighted page 20 of the agenda and the KPI relating to social care direct payments. He questioned why this KPI was underperforming. The Strategy Manager replied that this KPI had been significantly affected by COVID, as many private care service providers had to change the way they worked or not been able to work due to the pandemic/illness. The Chair added that some resident's healthcare situations had also deteriorated during the pandemic, so their care needs had expanded.

Councillor Kent drew the Committee's attention to page 21 of the report and the KPI relating to new apprenticeships. He questioned what the route to green was for this KPI, and how the Council had been engaging with the Kickstart Scheme. He also queried the KPI regarding the rate of young people re-offending on page 23 of the report and asked how the backlog of court cases was affecting this KPI. He added that the KPI relating payment of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) on page 22 of the agenda showed that only one in four people had paid their FPNs in December. He asked who was responsible for collecting this payment, and how the Council was ensuring residents continued to pay their fines. The Strategy Manager stated that the Council, along with other local authorities across the country, had struggled to meet the KPI regarding apprenticeships due to the impacts of COVID-19. The Director of Strategy, Engagement and Growth added that some services were working with Inspire and the Kickstart Scheme, for example the Cleaner and Greener team were offering work experience placements. The Strategy Manager stated that the number of young people reoffending was a small cohort, which produced larger percentages that appeared biased. She stated that the actual figures for the number of young people reoffending couldn't be provided to the Committee as the cohort was so small, and this could make these young people identifiable. The Strategy Manager explained that she would find out additional information regarding the process for the FPN KPI and provide this information after the meeting, but highlighted that residents did have three months to pay their fines, and therefore the KPI figures for November and December were subject to change, due to the deadlines regarding the publication of the report.

Councillor Collins queried the KPI relating to health hazards on page 24 of the report, and asked what the difference was between a category 1 and a category 2 health hazard. The Strategy Manager replied that category 1 was seen as the most serious health hazard, compared to category two which was not as serious. She agreed to find out more information and reply to the Committee in writing. Councillor Collins then questioned why the KPI relating to re-let voids had not been met. The Strategy Manager replied that the team

were currently struggling to re-let sheltered accommodation units that were not on the ground floor due to access issues. She explained that officers were working hard to make these properties more attractive and accessible.

Councillor Carter highlighted page 23 of the agenda and the KPI relating to the number of Looked After Children not receiving Initial Health Assessments. He asked if the target for this KPI could be changed from 80% to 100%. The Chair replied that the young person had a choice whether or not they undertook an Initial Health Assessment, and some young people could be unwilling. Councillor Carter understood this issue and asked if there could be an additional KPI target to ensure that every Looked After Child had been offered an Initial Health Assessment.

RESOLVED: That the Committee:

- 1. Noted and commented upon the performance of the key corporate performance indicators in particular those areas which are off target and the impact of COVID-19.
- 2. Identified any areas which require additional consideration.

36. Report on Asset Related Savings

Mr Woodbridge read out his statement as follows:

"Thank you Chair and others for allowing us to make a short statement this evening. We are Thurrock Lifestyle Solutions CIC and Thurrock International Celebration of Culture Ltd.

Firstly, we wanted to thank Officers and Members for the opportunity to try and save the Thameside and keep a place for arts and culture at the heart of Thurrock. All Members have expressed their desire to support this and as Cllr Coxshall stated "if the Thameside complex was transferred to the community, it will not only save the Council money but would improve the arts and cultural offer of the borough. He also stated, "the right financial support would have to be put in place to ensure the success of this project in the long term".

The Thameside Complex has not yet been saved. As you can imagine it has been quite some journey these past 20 weeks and we are aware that our governance is currently what we would describe as credible, but our plan is to make it incredible. We will need your help with this. Our original outline business plan was well received and we believe the figures you state are 'about right' in that this building costs the Council £647,000 per year and our plan will enable us to do this cheaper.

We subsequently have met with other Directors at the Council, as well as Officers, museum staff, library staff, and artists. Indeed, there are 150 children working on their own business plan for the building as we speak. We have invested community money and the final business plan is being worked on tirelessly. As part of this we need you to understand that this is a partnership

between community, Officers and Members. We want you to have a role in our governance going forwards, but your democratic mandate is at the fore when supporting us in this endeavour. Our consultation has included as diverse a community as possible, everyone is entitled to a voice and trust me, we have been listening. Our business plan is based on three pillars of governance, transformation and finance — Sounding Boards will ensure the continual engagement with all the cultures within our community.

We know that being born with two ears and one mouth is the correct ratio — we're still listening — talk to us. The saving of this building for the community of Thurrock is crucial. We have been overwhelmed by Thurrock's outpouring of love and understanding of the role arts and culture will play as the borough expands and support its citizens. The governance, conversations and actions will continue onwards.

We are very excited to have our business plan ready for you at the end of March, but we wanted to be clear that this will not only be transformational, but also it needs to be sustainable. We think that there are clever ways of using your money to lever in even more money. But the very starting point will be a need to ask for some of your transformational funds to help us on this journey together. SO be prepared for our ask – ideally in your June meetings. The decision will then be yours.

We want to go on this cultural journey with you together and are working tirelessly to get it over the line. So once again thank you."

Councillor Kent declared a non-pecuniary interest as he worked for Thurrock Lifestyle Solutions.

The Director of Strategy, Engagement and Growth introduced the report and thanked Mr Woodbridge for his statement. She stated that there were currently positive ongoing discussions with community groups and officers were looking forward to receiving the Full Business Case by the end of March. She stated that the team were talking to services and business partners, but assured Members that there would be no immediate, short-term changes to the Thameside Complex, and Members would receive regular updates on the situation.

Councillor Kent highlighted point 3.5 of the report and sought assurances that the Thameside Theatre would not close in August 2022. He felt that uncertainty surrounding the future of the site could cause difficulties for groups trying to book the venue and wanted to ensure this would not be the case. Councillor Kent also urged Cabinet to ensure that funding was available to the community group if the Thameside was transferred to them, so they would be able to improve the arts and culture offer within the borough. He felt pleased to see that Cabinet and officers were working with community groups on the asset transfer and hoped that the proposal would be submitted as planned.

Councillor Collins asked if the Full Business Case could be shared with

Members, and queried how long until the Thameside became self-funding if transferred. Mr Woodbridge replied that the business case could be shared if Members wished, and that they planned to be self-funding within five years. Councillor Collins asked if the building was life limited. The Director of Strategy, Engagement and Growth replied that the building required ongoing maintenance, and the projected capital costs had been shared with Mr Woodbridge for consideration in developing the Full Business Case. Mr Woodbridge added that they had compiled a red list of maintenance issues that required action, which equated to approximately £200,000. He explained that as the building had been designed as a library, and therefore needed to be structurally sound to hold a vast number of books, the structure of the building was solid.

RESOLVED: That the Committee:

- 1. Commented on the report and the recommendations to be considered by Cabinet on 9 March 2022:
- a. That Cabinet note the main points from the discussions with the community and through the ongoing wider Roundtable meetings.
- b. That Cabinet support the relevant Portfolio Holders and Officers to continue with further discussions with the community over the future of Thameside building and related services and that a recommendation is made to Cabinet for final decision no later than July 2022.

37. Thames Freeport: Business Rates Policy and Governance Structure

The Assistant Director of Economic Growth and Partnerships introduced the report and stated that it formed part of a wider government policy for increased investments in trade; innovation and regeneration; and levelling up to improve people's employment prospects and contribute to initiatives aimed at improving health and wellbeing. He stated that the Outline Business Case for the scheme had been submitted to government and was approved in October 2021, with the sites designated alongside other financial aspects in December 2021. He stated that the Full Business Case (FBC) had been submitted in January 2022, and was currently being quality assured by numerous government departments at Whitehall. He added that the partners were hoping to receive formal approval of the FBC by the end of March or early April. He thanked partners at the London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham and Havering for their joint work on the project.

The Assistant Director of Economic Growth and Partnerships stated that the Freeport could provide approximately 21,000 new jobs and would see additional private investment of over £4bn, the majority of which would come into Thurrock. He commented that the Freeport would provide opportunities for businesses both during construction and operation, and Thurrock were hoping to link small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to the Freeport through the supply chain. He added that the Freeport would also present opportunities to upskill the local workforce as Officers were currently looking at how they

could target opportunities available and upskill people to be able to apply for these jobs. He stated that targeted pathfinder programme would be available that would help people to access jobs and remove their barriers to employment.

The Assistant Director of Finance added that the business rates scheme for the Freeport had been active since December 2021, but the proposed policy provided clarity for businesses regarding business rate relief. He stated that the process for business rate relief sat within the Council, but business rates would be compensated for by central government. He stated that Thurrock were the lead local authority and accountable body for the Freeport, and that any further funding would go through Thurrock as the accountable body for the other three local authorities.

Councillor Kent queried the different between the new proposed Freeport and the freeports that had existed until 2012 and had been removed in 2014. He also asked if the Thames Freeport would work on the same basis as the other 5000 Freeports worldwide. He questioned what the basis for the business rate retention was and if this was up for negotiation. The Assistant Director of Economic Growth and Partnerships replied that the difference between the Freeports in 2012 and 2022 related to the different policies, additional levers and processes in place. He stated that the new Freeports connected multiple different departments across central government and involved new regeneration policies. He explained that customs arrangements for Freeports remained the same as in 2012 but there were ongoing discussions with HMRC regarding this issue. The Assistant Director of Finance stated that the customs site provided ongoing benefits for the Council and businesses, and 100% of business rates would be retained for 25 years, and would help generate larger capital programmes.

Councillor Kent asked how the Council would work to ensure businesses did not move from other areas in Thurrock into the Freeport area to receive business rate relief. The Assistant Director of Finance replied that the Council were working hard to ensure that issues regarding displacement did not arise across the three involved local authorities. He stated that every application to the Freeport would be considered and government guidance was scheduled to be published on this issue. Councillor Kent asked if an update report could be brought back before the Committee. The Chair and Committee agreed to this and a report was added to the Work Programme for next municipal year. Councillor Collins queried how the Freeport would be funded. The Assistant Director replied that £25mn would be from seed funding; £22mn from Thurrock Council; and £3mn from Ford. He explained that this would accelerate the preparation to get businesses on site, for example through land remediation programmes. The Assistant Director of Economic Growth and Partnerships added that this funding would speed up the investment and other processes by approximately six-eight months and would support infrastructure such as junction improvements. Councillor Collins asked if any business could apply to become part of the Freeport. The Assistant Director of Finance replied that certain businesses would be rejected if they did not meet the objectives of the proposal, for example residential and retail areas in the

Freeport. The Assistant Director of Economic Growth and Partnerships added that the Freeport would focus on four sectors: advanced logistics; light manufacturing; automotive manufacturing; and energy/circular economy. He stated that these sectors built on Thurrock's current economic strengths and business base.

RESOLVED: That the Committee:

1. Commented on the report and the recommendations to be considered by Cabinet on 9 March 2022:

That Cabinet:

- a. Approves the Thames Freeport Business Rates Policy at Appendix 1.
- b. Delegates authority to the Section 151 Officer to make necessary amendments to the policy as required, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Strategic Planning and External Relationships.
- c. Approve the Chief Executive's appointment as the Council's representative on the Thames Freeport Governance Board, who will be responsible for briefing and updating the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Finance, and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Strategic Planning and External Relationships on key and significant activity.
- d. Endorses the relevant Officers to participate in and represent the Council on the various Thames Freeport Sub-committees as necessary and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to appoint Officers to appropriate sub-committees e.g. Skills, Levelling Up and Regeneration.
- e. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources and Place Delivery and the Monitoring Officer, to enter into any Memoranda of Understanding with government and Freeport bodies in order to deliver the activities of Thames Freeport in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Strategic Planning and External Relationships.

38. Work Programme

The Committee agreed that an update report regarding the governance surrounding Freeports based on central government guidance would be added to the Work Programme.

The meeting finished at 8.17 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

12 July 2022		Item: 5		
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee				
Asset Review and 3Rs				
Wards and communities affected:	Key Decision:			
All	Key			
Report of: David Johnson, Interim Ass	sistant Director of Propert	ty		
Accountable Assistant Director: David Johnson, Interim Assistant Director of Property				
Accountable Director: Sean Clark, Corporate Director of Resources and Place Delivery				
This report is Public				

Executive Summary

This report sets out proposals for the disposal, rationalisation and improvement of property assets. It is government policy that local authorities should dispose of surplus and under-used land and property wherever possible.

The Council has fairly wide discretion to dispose of its assets (such as land or buildings) in any manner it wishes. When disposing of assets, the Council is subject to statutory provisions, in particular, to the overriding duty, under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, to obtain the best consideration that can be reasonably obtained for the disposal. This duty is subject to certain exceptions that are set out in the General Disposal Consent (England) 2003.

The way the Council manages its land/property assets can have a significant impact both on the quality of services delivered to the public and the local environment. Effective asset management is essential in bringing 'agility' to land and property assets so that the delivery of the Council's visions and objectives are realised in a sustainable manner, at the right time and on budget.

The assets reviewed represent a mix of locations, uses and a variation of those that could be short, medium or long term as well as being disposed of by private treaty, public auction, tender or on a leasehold basis.

The Asset Review considers the business case for disposing of any assets that are no longer of any use to it and is unlikely to be in the future or which provides only a benefit that is proportionate to the opportunity cost of the capital tied up in the asset. Each asset disposal is treated on its own merits and nothing in this report will bind the Council to a particular course of action in respect of a disposal.

The report also seeks Cabinet approval to declare a number of operational properties surplus to requirements and further reports will be brought back to Cabinet in the Autumn where applicable to discuss the future of the sites and any alternative delivery considerations.

1. Recommendations

That Corporate O&S:

- 1.1 Note the success of the 3Rs program in generating capital receipts totalling £9.3m in the financial Year 2021/22;
- 1.2 Note the success of the previous review of operational properties in delivering revenue savings and identifying potential sites currently being developed by TRL and HRA;
- 1.3 Pass this report to Cabinet for the following decisions:

"Declare the operational properties in section 6.2 of this report surplus to requirements and receive a report back, where applicable, on the future of the sites and any alternative delivery consideration;

Declare surplus the properties as shown in Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4; and approve the release or re-use of the properties as outlined; and

Subject to the agreement to release the assets in Appendix 1, 2. 3 and 4, delegate authority of the disposal to the Corporate Director of Resources and Place Delivery in consultation with the Leader and the completion of a delegated authority decision report."

- 2. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options
- 2.1 In considering any disposal the Asset Review would have considered the assets within Appendix 1 against the table and weightings confirmed in the Cabinet Report of 10 March 2021 which enables the Council to consider the rationale for Reuse. Retain or Release.
- 2.2 This report considers the options available for the properties listed in Appendix 1 which have been assessed as surplus or under-used assets.
- 2.3 A list of assets for potential release continues to be analysed and scrutinised by the Property Team, Planning, Services, property occupiers (where appropriate/applicable) and Members. Further scrutiny would result in the "release list" being evaluated and prioritised according to factors such as:
 - Cost of holding;
 - Potential value from disposal;
 - Ease of /or constraint on sale;
 - Site preparation considerations/de-risking and associated costs; and

Any wider economic or social benefit of retaining.

Once this has been assessed further disposals of assets maybe brought forward.

3. Option 1: Do nothing – Retain the assets, Business as usual, little need or opportunity for change identified

3.1 These assets have been assessed as needing to be retained to support Council business in their existing position. However, this is not to say that no further work is required on these premises. They will continue to be maintained and in some instances, will require improvement or refurbishment at some future stage. Furthermore, as the review process is established within the Council, their continuing use and occupation will be subject to periodic review and their status

4. Option 2: Reuse – For different services or more intensive or changed use

- 4.1 Many of the assets within this category are subject to ongoing review by the occupying service directorate and it is envisaged proposals will either come forward at the conclusion of those reviews (e.g. leisure, environmental) or through further discussion between the Service and Corporate Property.
- 5. Option 3 Release Dispose of the site immediately or develop for Housing or another beneficial use.
- 5.1 A review has been undertaken of the properties listed in Appendix 1,2 and 3 and where they are considered appropriate for development by the Council directly this is annotated and where they are not considered appropriate it is recommended that they are released.
- 5.2 A rationalisation programme to continue with the reviewing of assets, releasing those no longer required in a structured manner to realise capital and or support wider regeneration or housing via affordable housing requirements.
- 5.3 Release in some instances will free the Council from poor performing properties from a compliance, economic and statutory requirement.

6. Operational Assets Previously declared Surplus – Update

6.1 The cost savings and new revenue from rationalisation of the operational portfolio have previously been identified as an important contribution to the Council's budget arrangements and a target of £1m revenue savings included within the budget forecasts for financial year 2022/23. Cabinet is asked to note the success of the review of operational assets by noting the progress of the below properties previously declared surplus.

- 6.1.1 Corran Way Depot Scheduled for demolition which will generate a revenue saving and currently being considered by Housing Regeneration as a potential development site;
- 6.1.2 CO1 Civic Offices Subject of a separate Cabinet report as a Housing Development site;
- 6.1.3 11A Corve Lane Buildings have been demolished generating a revenue saving and currently being considered by Housing Regeneration as a potential development site;
- 6.1.4 Richmond Road Campus Buildings have been demolished generating a revenue saving and currently being considered by Housing Regeneration as a potential development site; and
- 6.1.5 Riverside Youth Centre Buildings have been demolished generating a revenue saving and currently being considered by Housing Regeneration as a potential development site.

6.2 Operational Assets – Additional Surplus Properties

Property as a resource should act as a facilitator and enabler to the Council's service provision and an overarching review of the entire operational estate and initiatives have been successfully undertaken by several directorates and services and have identified additional savings from those previously considered by the Cabinet from rationalisation of operational properties.

- 6.3 Cabinet are asked to consider whether the following assets also listed in Appendix 2 are surplus to requirements.
- 6.3.1 Aveley Children's Centre Children's Services have move their services provision to Aveley Community Hub and other locations resulting that the property is no longer used as an Operational Asset. Disposal of the asset would generate a capital receipt and a revenue saving;
- 6.3.2 Stanford-le-Hope Children's Centre Children's Services have moved their service provision to a small standalone building at the Children's Centre meaning the larger building on the site is no longer used as an Operational Asset. Disposal of the asset would generate a capital receipt and a revenue saving; and
- 6.3.3 Purfleet Children's Centre Children's Services have moved their service provision to other operational locations resulting that the property is no longer used as an Operational Asset. The Purfleet Community Forum who currently use the building have expressed an interest in taking the building on. Disposal of the asset would generate revenue saving and provide a community asset.

7. Scout Huts

- 7.1 The Council is the freeholder of several properties noted in Appendix 3 which are leases on long-term leases to the Scout Association. It is often the case with these properties that the buildings on the sites have been developed with local community or Scout association funding.
- 7.2 The Management of these assets is revenue costly for the Council compared with the nominal rentals that are being charged to the Scout association. The construction of these buildings often means that they fail EPC's and cannot be re-leased to the Scout Association when the leases expire. Being the freeholder of these sites will enable the Scouts to manage the buildings in a more commercial and less restrictive fashion, access additional sources of grant funding and potentially generate additional income streams and charge the asset.
- 7.3 It is the intent that these assets are transferred to the Scouts for a nil consideration. Disposal of these assets would generate a revenue saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on the Scout Association and secure the tenure of these sites for Scout Association use subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.
- 7.4 Cabinet is asked to consider whether the assets listed in Appendix 3 are surplus to requirements.

8. Village Halls

- 8.1 The Council is the freeholder of several properties noted in Appendix 4 which are leased on long-term leases to various Community bodies. It is often the case with these properties that the buildings on the sites have been developed with local community funding.
- 8.2 The Management of these assets is revenue and capital costly for the Council compared with the nominal rentals that are being charged to the users by the Council. Disposals of these assets will effectively level the rental obligations for the various Village Hall organisations as currently there is a lack of consistency across the assets in terms of rents.
 - Being the freeholder of these sites will enable the Village Hall Organisations to manage the buildings in a more commercial and less restrictive fashion, access additional sources of grant funding and potentially generate additional income streams and charge the asset. Most of the current/historic leases are ambiguous with regard to repairing obligations and result in significant Capital expenditure for the Council.
- 8.3 It is the intent that these assets are transferred to the various Village Hall organisation for a nil consideration. Disposal of these assets would generate a capital saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on community groups

and secure the tenure of these sites for community use subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.

8.4 Cabinet is asked to consider whether the assets listed in Appendix 4 are surplus to requirements.

9. **Reasons for Recommendation**

- 9.1 The sites listed in Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been considered against the criteria above and within the context of the previously agreed decision process and they are considered as Option 3.
- 9.2 The assets recommended for disposal are in the freehold ownership of Thurrock Council. The assets are not required for future service provision or regeneration initiatives and would therefore provide an opportunity for the Council to realise a capital receipt.
- 9.3 The capital receipts will support and assist towards any funding gaps in the MTFS and funding the capital programme.
- 9.4 The 3Rs programme has also considered operational buildings that are considered surplus and/or uneconomical to maintain and a number of operational buildings are included within this report.
- 10. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)
- 10.1 There has been consultation with services on the proposed assets in Appendices 1, 2 and 3. Further reports on the operational assets will be considered by Corporate Overview and Scrutiny.
- 11. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact
- Assets that are not required for the delivery of council services directly will 11.1 add benefit to the residents through alternative ownership be it for additional housing or a community facility.

12. **Implications**

12.1 Financial

Sean Clark Implications verified by:

Corporate Director, Resources and Place

Delivery

There are two distinct financial benefits from the disposal of surplus assets. Firstly, assets can incur running costs and so this creates a saving. Secondly, income received from disposal, a capital receipt, can be used to meet the costs of transformational activity and also pay for capital expenditure, thus avoiding the need for prudential borrowing and the associated revenue costs.

The disposals included within this paper will contribute towards the target set out within the budget papers for 2022/23.

12.2 **Legal**

Implications verified by: Mark Bowen

Interim Head of Legal Services

The Council is generally empowered to dispose of assets which are underperforming or surplus to requirements. Each asset will need to be checked to ensure its formal ownerships and appropriation enable general disposal with terms to be confirmed.

Some of the highlighted sites are regarded as Public Open Space and will be subject to formal public consultation before disposal.

A final analysis of the legal title and terms of disposal will be included in the final disposal decision report.

12.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: Rebecca Lee

Team Manager - Community Development

The Asset Disposal Policy sets out considerations for bringing agility to land and property assets so that the delivery of the Council's goals and objectives are realised in a sustainable manner, at the right time and on budget. The policy itself will be the subject of a Community Equality Impact Assessment to mitigate the risk of negative impact on citizens and communities. Where community assets are identified for disposal, the process set out for the implementation of the CAT Policy and principles of the Collaborative Communities Framework will be applied, this includes the completion of CEIA's on a case by case basis, engagement with the voluntary and community sector, and an assessment of social value that includes support for Thurrock's recovery from COVID-19 and building resilience within communities and voluntary sector networks.

12.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health Inequalities, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, and Impact on Looked After Children

Assets are used for a range of purposes including direct service delivery, use by community groups and residents.

13. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

None

14. Appendices to the report

Appendix 1 – Asset Review, Properties

Appendix 2 – Asset Review, Operational Properties

Appendix 3 – Asset Review, Scout Huts

Appendix 4 – Asset Review, Village Halls

Report Author

David Johnson

Interim Assistant Director of Property

Appendix 1

Vosa, Tank Hill Road, Purfleet, RM19 1SX



Description: Large industrial unit let on a short time lease.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	4.10 Acres, 16,596 Sqm	Industrial	EX796642
Ward West Thurrock	EPC		
and South Stifford			

The site is considered suitable for a residential development. It is proposed that the Council's Housing Regeneration look at the viability of a Council led development on the site and depending on the result either develop through the HRA, dispose to TRL or dispose to the open market.

Buckingham Hill (Former Landfill Site), Stanford-Le-Hope



Description: Site is used for the borough's recycle centre.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 52 Acres, 212,142 Sqm	USE Refuse Centre / Open Land	Title or Deed No EX936250
Ward East Tilbury	EPC		

The site is considered suitable for alternate uses. It is proposed that the Council look at the viability of alternative uses and either use or dispose of as is appropriate.

Former Depot (demolished), Curzon Drive, Grays, RM17 6BG



Description: Industrial site at Curzon Drive Industrial Estate. The site is currently a mix of tenanted and vacant properties

Holding Account Grays Riverside	Site Area 4.8 Acres, 208,808 Sqm (approx.)	Use Industrial Site	Title or Deed No EX953397
Ward Grays Riverside	EPC N/A		

The site is considered suitable for a residential development or other beneficial uses. It is proposed that the Council's Housing Regeneration look at the viability of a Council led development on the site and depending on the result either develop through the HRA, dispose to TRL or dispose of to the open market.

Woodlands Edge PH. South Ockendon, RM15 5RD



Description: Property is situated on a large corner plot, with a large parking area. Site is let on a land only lease, expiring 24th March 2035.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.69 Acres, 2,813 Sqm	Public House	EX25346
Ward	EPC		
Belhus			

Crooked Billet PH, Billet Lane, Stanford-Le-Hope, SS17 OAR



Description: Public House located within the Billet Recreation ground in Stanford Le Hope. Property is let on an FRI lease, expiring 1st May 2125.

- /				
Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No	
General Fund	1.27 Acres, 5,153 Sqm	Public House	EX787652	
Ward	EPC			
Stanford Le Hope	G			
West				

Park Tavern PH, Aveley, RM15 4PH



Description: Public House situated within the centre of South Ockendon. Property is let out on a land only lease, ending on the 23rd June 2027.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.44 Acres, 1,793 Sqm	Public House	EX26234
Ward Aveley and Uplands	EPC D		

Knight of Aveley PH, Derry Avenue, South Ockendon RM15 5LN



Description: Public House situated within the centre of South Ockendon. Property is let out on a land only lease, ending on the 23rd June 2034

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.686 Acres, 2,778 Sqm	Public House	EX25346
Ward Ockendon	EPC D		

The Archer PH, Garron Lane, South Ockendon, RM15 5JU



Description:

The property is situaated on the corner of Garron Lane and consist of a public house building, garden area and large car park.

The site is let on a land only lease, expiring 24th March 2036.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 0.50 Acres, 1,990 Sqm	Use Public House	Title or Deed No EX25346
Ward Belhus	EPC		
Beinus	D		

Jack O'Lantern PH, Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon RM15 5AE



Description: Corner land plot held freehold by the Council but let on a long lease for proviosn of a public house. The building is the property of the lessee. Property has recently been destroyed by a fire.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.391 Acres, 1,586 Sqm	Currently used as a PH	EX25345
Ward Ockendon	EPC D		

Daniels (T/A Chadwell Arms) PH, Longhouse Road, Chadwell St Mary, RM16 4QP



Description: Public House situated within the centre of South Chadwell St Mary. Property is let out on a land only lease, ending on the 14th December 2066.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.739 Acres, 2,900 Sqm	Public House	EX847209
Ward Chadwell St Mary	EPC E		

Corys Wharf, Purfleet, RM19 1PS



Description: Open land running on the Thames river front.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	16.35 Acres, 66,000 Sqm	Open Land	EX371902
Ward West Thurrock	EPC		

The site is considered suitable for alternate uses to generate revenue. It is proposed that the Council look at the viability of alternative uses and either use or dispose of as is appropriate.

Bennett Lodge Residential Home, Waterson Road



Description: A two storey residential care home let to Runwood Homes Plc with a lease expiring 30th August 2024

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 1.61 Acres, 6,538 Sqm (approx.)	Use Residential Care Home	Title or Deed No EX682427 EX653187
Ward Chadwell St Mary	EPC		

The Council currently owns the freehold of two residential homes let to Runwood Homes Plc. Historically it has been difficult to manage the leases effectively due to the Council being both Landlord and client for these homes. It is recommended that the freehold be disposed of to the tenant who have expressed an interest in purchasing

Leatherland Lodge Residential Home, Darenth Lane



Description: A two storey residential care home let to Runwood Homes Plc with a lease expiring 30th August 2024

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 0.84 Acres, 3,415 Sqm (approx.)	Use Residential Care Home	Title or Deed No EX89963
Ward Belhus	EPC		

The Council currently owns the freehold of two residential homes let to Runwood Homes Plc. Historically it has been difficult to manage the leases effectively due to the Council being both Landlord and client for these homes. It is recommended that the freehold be disposed of to the tenant who have expressed an interest in purchasing

Land adj Arena Essex



Description: Vacant land situated on the roundabout adjacent Arena Essex.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	3.04 Acres, 12,307 Sqm	Open Land	EX277479
Ward West Thurrock and South Stifford	EPC N/A		

The site is considered suitable for alternate uses to generate revenue. It is proposed that the Council look at the viability of alternative uses and either use or dispose of as is appropriate.

Land north of Tank Lane, Purfleet



Description: Open land adjacent the Garrison Estate, Purfleet.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	2,05 Acres, 8,325 Sqm	Open Land	EX187879
Ward Aveley and Uplands	EPC N/A		

The site is considered suitable for a residential development or other beneficial uses. It is proposed that the Council's Housing Regeneration look at the viability of a Council led development on the site and depending on the result either develop through the HRA, dispose to TRL or dispose of to the open market.

Whiteacres, Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon



Description: Open Land situated on Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.89 Acres, 3,611 Sqm	Open Land	EX153605
Ward	EPC		
Belhus	N/A Open Land		

The site is considered suitable for a residential development or other beneficial uses. It is proposed that the Council's Housing Regeneration look at the viability of a Council led development on the site and depending on the result either develop through the HRA, dispose to TRL or dispose of to the open market.



Appendix 2

Aveley Children's Centre, (Discovery Centre) Stifford Road, Aveley RM15 4AA



Description: Children's centre which is part of the Discovery Centre. The property is a former Victorian School building which is used by Council Children Services and multi tenanted sharing an access road with Aveley Primary School Academy.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE Childrens nursery and pre school	Title or Deed No
General Fund	1.20 Acres		EX985044,EX27636
Ward Aveley & Uplands	EPC D82		

Children's Serviced have move their services provision to Aveley Community Hub and other locations resulting that the property is no longer used as an Operational Asset. Disposal of the asset would generate a capital receipt and a revenue saving.

Stanford Childrens Centre, Copland Road, Stanford Le Hope, SS17 0DF



Description: Children's centre annexed from Stanford Primary School. Victorian style building.

Holding Account	Site Area 0.656 Acres, 2,655 Sqm	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund		Child care	AA4409 / EX88462
Ward Stanford Le Hope West	EPC		

Children's Serviced have move their services provision a small standalone building at the Children's Centre meaning the larger building on the site is no longer used as an Operational Asset. Disposal of the asset would generate a capital receipt and a revenue saving.

Purfleet Childrens Centre (Riverlane Centre), Centurion Way, Purfleet, RM19 1PF



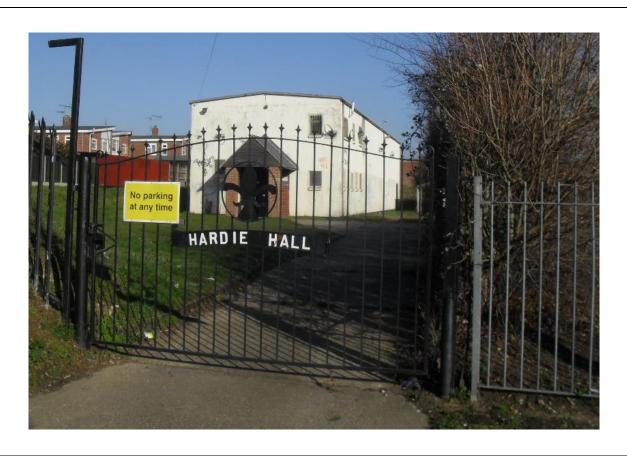
Description: Children's centre situated close to the river. Property consists of a Lobby area, offices, main session area, session room 2 and play store.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.037 Acres, 151 Sqm	Children's services	EX867258
Ward West Thurrock and South Stifford	EPC D		

Children's Serviced have move their services provisions to other operational locations resulting that the property is no longer used as an Operational Asset. The Purfleet Community Forum who currently use the building have expressed an interest in taking the building on. Disposal of the asset would generate revenue saving and provide a community asset.

Appendix 3

Hardie Hall Scouts, Hardie Road, Stanford, SS17 OPB



Description: Scout Hall situated behind Hardie Road and adjacent the Manorway recreation ground.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.156 Acres, 630 Sqm	Scouts meeting	EX935554
Ward Stanford Le Hope West	EPC		

Waterson Road Scouts, Chadwell St Mary, RM16 4NX



Description: Former council depot situated at the rear of the village halls, Waterson Road. Pre-fabricated built building with a parking area.

Property is leased to the Scout group, expiring 19th January 2022.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.401 Acres, 1,626 Sqm	Community / Scouts	EX847280
Ward Chadwell St	EPC		
Mary	F		

Woodview Scouts, The Dipping, Grays, RM17 5SX



Description: Property is situated within the Dipping recreation ground The is let to the Scout Group, expiring 18th November 2036

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.111 Acres, 452 Sqm	Community / Scouts	EX857013
Ward Little Thurrock Rectory	EPC		

Scouts, Northview Avenue, Tilbury (Former St. Chads School Site), Tilbury, RM18 7RT



Description: Single Storey timber frames Scout Hall and land

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.204 Acres, 827 Sqm	Scout Hall	EX798621
Ward Tilbury St Chads	EPC		

Faymore Gardens, Scouts, South Ockendon, RM15 5NN



Description: An 'L' Shaped property situated adjacent the Dilkes Wood Property is let to the Scout Group, expiring 31st March 2034.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General	0.176 Acres, 714 Sqm	Community Use / Scouts	EX52287
Ward Belhus	EPC		

Stifford Sea Scout Group, Prince Phillip Avenue Scouts Hall, Grays, RM16 2DJ



Description:

Single storey Sea scout hall situated within the parking area at the rear of the residential properties.

Holding Account	Site Area 0.310 Acres, 1,255	Use	Title or Deed No
Housing		Scout Hall	EX859314
Ward Stifford Clays	EPC		

Thors Oak Scouts, Stanford le Hope, SS17 7DD



Description: Pre-fabricated property situated adjacent the Manorway. Lease to the scouts expires 31st March 2016.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0136 Acres, 0.136 Sqm	Community / Scout Hall	EX798678
Ward Stanford East and Corrignham	EPC		

Horndon Rec Scouts Hut, Hordon on the Hill, SS17 8NR



Description: Scout hut situated within the Horndon recreation ground. The property is let on a lease until 24th December 2021.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.080 Acres, 326 Sqm	Community Use	EX782627
Ward	EPC		
Orsett			

Alf Lowen Scout Hall, Grays Park Leisure Centre Scouts, Richmond Road, Grays, RM17 6DN



Description: The property is let to the Scout Association, expiring 27th April 2036.

Holding Account	Site Area 0.414 Acres,	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	1,677Sqm	Scout Hall	EX884584
Ward Grays Thurrock	EPC		

Tamarisk Road Scouts, South Ockendon, RM15 6HU



Description: Single storey building situated within a large open space. The property is let to the Scout Association, expiring 29th September 2026.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.138 Acres, 560 Sqm	Community / Scout Hall	EX25346
Ward Ockendon	EPC		



Belmont Village Hall, Parker Road, Grays, RM17 5YN



Description:

Detached property with a main hall, stores, WCs and kitchen. A 1990s purpose built single story hall of brick construction under a pitched tiled roof situated on the edge of Stifford Primary School in Grays.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 0.269 Acres 1089 sqm	USE Community Hall	Title or Deed No EX557072
Ward Grays Riverside	EPC		

Belhus Village Hall, Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon, RM15 5AE



Description: Multi-purpose village hall building run by Management Committee. Leased to Trustees of Belhus Village Hall on IRI terms with effect from 26 July 1989. Hall adjacent Jack O Lantern PH and backs onto South Ockendon Hub/Library

3 3333	Site Area 0.392 Acres 1587 sqm	USE Village Hall	Title or Deed No EX25346
Ward Ockendon	EPC		

Brandon Groves Community Hall, Brandon Groves Avenue, South Ockendon, RM15 6TD



Description: A structure circa 100 years old, situated off Brandon Groves Avenue in South Ockendon. Brick construction under a pitched tile roof, comprising a main hall with a bar, store rooms and WCs. There are 10 car parking spaces on the premises. Leased to the hall Trustees for 60 years with effect from 1 October 1997

Holding Account	SITE AREA	USE Managed by hall	Title or Deed No
General Fund		trustees	
Ward	EPC		
Ockendon			

Bulphan Village Hall, Church Road, Bulphan, RM14 3RU



Description:

A 1970s single storey structure of wooden frame, measuring 260 sq. m. backing onto public fields in Church Road. Hall has a main hall with a stage, kitchen facilities, WCs and cloak room. Bulphan CIO.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area	USE Village Hall	Title or Deed No:
Ward Bulphan	EPC		

Chadwell Village Hall (Small), Waterson Road, Chadwell St Mary, RM16 4NX



Description: Lease granted on FRI terms for 10 years @ £11,500 pa with effect from 15 March 2019

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund		Village Hall	
Ward	EPC		
Chadwell St Mary	E		

Chadwell Village Hall (Large), Waterson Road, Chadwell St Mary, RM16 4NX



Description: IMulti-purpose village hall building run by Management Committee. Lease granted to the Trustees of the Chadwell Hall Management Group from 01/04/1973.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area	USE Hall management committee and nursery	Title or Deed No
Ward Chadwell St	EPC		
Mary	E		

Corringham Village Hall, Springhouse Road, Corringham SS17 7LE



Description: A 1970s brick building of brick and tile construction in Springhouse Road. Accommodation comprises a hall with stage, offices, kitchen and WCs with 80 car parking spaces. Leased of FRI terms to Trustees and Management Committee effective from 28 March 2013.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area 0.713 Acres, 2,887 Sqm	USE Village Hall	Title or Deed No EX859229
Ward Stanford East	EPC		
and Corringham			

Cowdray Village Hall, 50 London Road, West Thurrock, RM20 3BJ



Description: Multi-purpose hall building. A single storey purpose built hall of traditional brick construction. FRI Lease for 99 years with effect from 11/01/1983 to Trustees of West Thurrock Community Hall

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.62 Acres	Village Hall	
Ward	EPC		
West Thurrock and			
South Stifford			

East Tilbury Village Hall, Princess Margaret Avenue, East Tilbury, RM18 8RB



Description: Multi-purpose village hall building run by Management Committee. Leased on IRI terms to Trustees of East Tilbury Hall from 1983

Holding Account	Site Area	USE Community Hall / Hall	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.111 Acres, 452 Sqm	management committee	EX275011
Ward	EPC		
East Tilbury			
,			

Subject to relocating the relocating library within disposal of this asset would generate a capital saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on the tenant community group and secure the tenure of these sites for community use, subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.

Horndon Village Hall, High Road, Horndon On The Hill



Description: Village Hall Situated on the main road through Horndon On The Hill, with a parking area at the rear of the property.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.227 Acres, 922 Sqm	Community Hall	EX516757
Ward	EPC		
Grays Riverside			

Hugh Delargy Hall, North Road, Purfleet, RM19 1TU



Description: A single storey brick built building located off Wood Avenue in Purfleet. Let to Trustees of JSC on a lease effective from I September 1997

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.057 Acres, 232 Sqm	Judo Club	EX499827
Ward	EPC		
Aveley & Uplands			

Linford Village Hall, Lower Crescent Road, Linford, SS17 0QP



Description: Multi-purpose village hall run by Management Committee. Leased on IRI terms to the Trustees and Management of Linford Village Hall from 10 June 1971.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.206 Acres, 834 Sqm	Hall management and	EX863155
		trustees	
Ward	EPC		
East Tilbury			

Orsett Village Hall, High Road, Orsett RM16 3LD



Description: Multi-use Village Hall building run by Management Committee. Let to Management Committee effect form 5 September 1972

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area	USE Community Hall- Hall management committee	Title or Deed No
Ward	EPC		
Orsett			

South Ockendon Village Hall, 65 North Road, South Ockendon RM15 6QA



Description:

Multi-purpose village hall building run by Management Committee.

802Sqm		EX862720
EPC		
	•	'

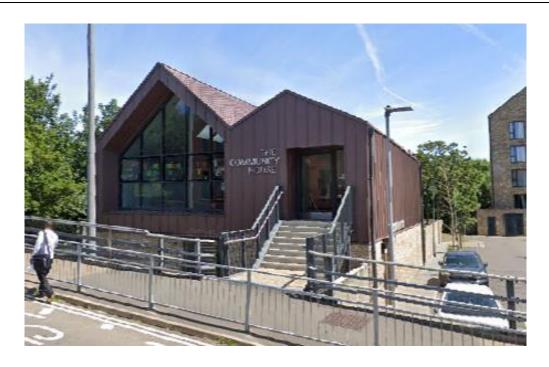
South Ockendon Village Social Club, Canterbury Parade, South Ockendon, RM15 6NH



Description: A purpose built hall of brick construction under a pitched roof close to the retail parade in Canterbury parade in South Ockendon. Leased on a 60 year leased to the Hall trustees on IRI terms from 29 March 1973.

Holding Account	Site Area 0.310 Acres, 1.255	USE Community Hall - Hall	Title or Deed No
General Fund	sqm	Trustees and management	EX857218
Ward	EPC		
Ockendon			

Seabrooke Rise Community Hall, Sherfield Road, Grays, RM17 6FJ



Description: Purpose built modern community Hall. Leased to Trustees of the Grays Riverside Community Association with effect from 30th July 2017 for 35 years.

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.154 Acres, 623 Sqm	Community Hall	EX863188
Ward	EPC		
Grays Riverside	E		

<u>Drake Road Community Hall, Drake Road, Grays, RM16 6PS</u>



Description: Multi-purpose village hall building run by Management Committee. Leased to hall Trustees of Drake Community Hall from 1993

Holding Account	Site Area	USE	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0142 Acres, 577 Sqm	Village Hall	EX485674
Ward	EPC		
Chafford and North			
Stifford			

Disposal of these asset would generate a capital saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on community groups and secure the tenure of these sites for community use subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.

Tilbury Community Hall, Montreal Road, Tilbury, RM18 8AA



Description: A purpose built building on the junction on Montreal Road and Calcutta Road in Tilbury. Let on a 99 year building lease with effect from 24 June 1965 to the Trustees.

Holding Account General Fund	Site Area	USE Community Hall - Hall Trustees and Management Committee	Title or Deed No
Ward Tilbury St Chads	EPC		

Disposal of these asset would generate a capital saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on community groups and secure the tenure of these sites for community use subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.

Homesteads Village Hall, Dunstable Road, Stanford Le Hope, SS17 8QL



Description: Multi-purpose Village Hall building run by Management Committee. Leased to the Homesteads Village Hall Management Committee with effect from 23 January 1998.

Holding Account	Site Area	Use	Title or Deed No
General Fund	0.664 Acres, 2,688 Sqm	Village Hall Management	EX396266
		Committee	
Ward	EPC		
The Homesteads			

Disposal of these asset would generate a capital saving for the Council, reduce the rental burden on community groups and secure the tenure of these sites for community use subject to restrictive covenants to ensure that the freeholds remain as assets to benefit the community.



12 July 2022		ITEM: 6									
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee											
End of Year (April 2021 to March 2022) Corporate Performance Report 2021/22											
Wards and communities affected: All Key Decision: Non-key											
Report of: Karen Wheeler, Director of Strateg	y, Engagement a	nd Growth									
Accountable Assistant Director: n/a											
Accountable Director: Karen Wheeler, Directors Growth	or of Strategy, Er	ngagement and									
This report is public											

Executive Summary

This report provides a final position in relation to the performance of key indicators during the 2021/22 council year.

Despite the varying longer-term impact of COVID, the report shows that 67.5% of indicators are currently achieving target and 69% are better than or the same as the previous year.

To recap, during the first three months of the financial year (April to June), the country was preparing to open up slowly in line with the government's roadmap, but there were still a number of restrictions in place. In quarter 2 (July to September), some indicators were still being directly or indirectly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic although national restrictions had significantly reduced. During quarter 3 (October to December), rates of infection and restrictions increased again. In the final quarter (January to March) restrictions were lifted, however there were still some residual knock-on impacts to some services.

The report highlights if, where and how COVID-19 disrupted or changed performance and/or priorities and demand levels across a number of services during the year and in some cases continues to have a lasting effect.

It is anticipated that this will be the final corporate performance report which will include a specific section focused on COVID impact.

The future landscape of Thurrock is changing, across the whole borough with the Thames Freeport and Towns Funds awards being key place-changing initiatives, designed to help level-up Thurrock and create a borough where everyone can proudly live, work and play. As such, the Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Performance has given direction that Thurrock Council will refresh the borough 'vision' (last reviewed in 2016) to ensure these initiatives feature in the forward plan and priorities

for Thurrock. This will also lead to an associated refresh of the corporate performance framework – meaning that a modern set of key priorities and key performance indicators will be introduced so that the council is targeted toward the delivery of a new purpose and vision.

The report also highlights other achievements of the council during the year.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 To note and comment upon the performance of the key corporate performance indicators in particular those areas which did not reach their target and the impact of COVID-19.
- 1.2 To identify any areas which require additional consideration in 2022/23 as part of the refresh of the council's corporate performance framework.
- 1.3 To note the commencing of a refresh of the borough forward vision, and underlying key priorities and key performance indicators, reflecting a modern Thurrock (inclusive of major infrastructure investment through the Towns Funds and Thames Freeport).

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1. The performance of the priority activities of the council is monitored through the Corporate Key Performance Indicator (KPI) framework. This provides a mixture of strategic and operational indicators. The indicators have been chosen to be as clear and simple to understand as possible, whilst balancing the need to ensure the council is monitoring those things which are of most importance, both operationally and strategically.
- 2.2. This reflects the demand for council services increasing and being ever more complex, not least due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, and the need for a holistic approach to monitoring data and intelligence. Analysis of performance and internal processes at service level by Directors continued monthly throughout 2020/21 and continued throughout 2021/22.
- 2.3. These corporate indicators were reported to both Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet on a quarterly basis throughout 2021/22.
- 2.4. Since June 2019, where performance is below target, commentary has been included to show the intended improvement plan. This is included in Section 3.6 as the "Route to Green".

3.1 Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

This report is a monitoring and update report, therefore there is no options analysis.

3.2 **Summary of Corporate KPI Performance**

Pe	End of Ye			
Achieved	07.50/	1	BETTER	63%
	67.5% (27)	→	STATIC	18.5%
	(21)	¥	WORSE	18.5%
	32.5%	1	BETTER	41.7%
Failed		→	STATIC	0%
	(13)	lack	WORSE	58.3%

Direction of Travel compared to 2020/21									
↑ BETTER	56.4% (22)								
→ STATIC	12.8% (5)								
Ψ WORSE	30.8% (12)								

3.3 Impact of Covid-19

- 3.3.1 The final End of Year overall outturn is 67.5% of indicators achieving their target which is higher than the outturn for 2020/21 of 63%, but below the largely pre-COVID outturn in 2019/20 of 74%. However, given the significant impact and disruption over the last two years due to COVID-19, it is difficult to make a like-for-like comparison. During the period which this report covers, the first quarter plus December saw the country still in various phases of lockdown. Whilst restrictions have now ceased, the council has continued to see residual impacts to some services.
- 3.3.2 In most cases the targets for 2021/22 were decided to be based on "normal" circumstances to more clearly analyse the impact of the disruption caused by the pandemic. Where an indicator has failed to reach its end of year target, the commentary provided will identify clearly whether this is related to COVID-19 impacts or other factors impacting on performance.
- 3.3.3 There were some 'People'-orientated KPIs in the scorecard which have not been able to be reported at all during 2021/22 data due to COVID-19 disruption. These are as follows:

Number of delayed transfers of care (DTOC) - days	Collection of official DToC figures was
from hospital (attrib. to NHS, ASC & Joint)	suspended by NHS England for 2021/22.
Number of GP practices with automated screening protocol in place for depression and anxiety amongst LTC (long-term conditions) patients	Data has not been available from GP practices throughout 2021/22.
% of GP practices who have received a) 1 visit to	Due to prioritising primary care on the
discuss COVID recovery in relation to Quality	booster vaccine campaign in response to
Outcomes Framework (QOF) b) second visit to review	the pandemic recovery, visits were
outcomes of first and discuss the cancer quality	suspended and data ceased in relation to
improvement work	these QOF indicators.
KS2 Attainment - % Achieving Expected or Better	
Progress in a) Reading b) Writing c) Maths	
KS4 Attainment 8 score	
KS4 Progress 8 score	
KS4 % English / maths combined GCSE grade 5+	Government is not publishing annual
Achievement of Level 2 qualification at 19 years old	attainment data for schools for last year.
Achievement of Level 3 qualification at 19 years old	
Children Looked After KS2 – % Achieving the	
National Standard in Reading, Writing & Maths	
Children Looked After KS4 – Progress 8 score	

3.4 **Highlights of 2021/22**

Despite the challenges that 2021/22 has created there are many highlights and achievements to share, including:

- Thurrock received £42.7million as part of the Towns Fund with Tilbury receiving £22.8million and Grays being awarded £19.9 million
- co-production with private sector partners of the Thames Freeport Full Business Case for government
- delivery of approximately 2,000 Christmas presents to children and young people known to social care teams donated by Thurrock residents and businesses for Give a Gift
- 30 family-run and small independent businesses taking part in the Shop Safe Shop Local campaign in support of Small Business Saturday and over the festive period
- support offered to small businesses across the borough as part of the council's Welcome Back Fund programme
- new Vaccine Champions recruited to make sure more of the borough's residents get the protection the COVID-19 vaccines offer thanks to £485,000 of government funding awarded to the borough
- Mayor's COVID stars special recognition certificates were given to around 450 people in the borough who were nominated for having gone above and beyond to help their community during the COVID-19 pandemic
- partnership working to refresh the Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- support to Office of National Statistics to deliver the Census 2021 survey
- Beaconsfield Place opened in Tilbury a new build affordable and accessible development comprising of 31 one-bedroom flats and four two-bedroom duplexes, plus derelict garages in Chadwell St Mary were transformed into two habitable residential bungalows benefiting Thurrock families who have health or mobility problems
- several joint operations started with Essex Police targeting nuisance bikers, with expanding initiatives starting through 2022.
- first-ever Thurrock Enterprise Week (#TEW) promoted business growth, entrepreneurship and connected local businesses to major strategic investment projects across the borough
- Stanford-le-Hope railway station gained planning approval after delays at the Planning Committee
- Grays Beach Riverside Park received new play equipment, including a new ship and castle, Parkour outdoor sports, health and fitness area and improved accessibility
- The Highway Maintenance Team have performed well with their management of pothole repairs – in ten out of the 12 months 100% of potholes were repaired within policy and agreed timeframe and a final outturn of 99.87%

3.5 **On target performance**

67.5% of available corporate KPIs achieved their targets. (Brackets show actuals where appropriate).

	Portfolio	2020/21		Quarter 2			ln	ln	End of	Target	Direction of	2021/22
Indicator Definition	Holder 2021/22	Outturn	Year to Date	Year to Date	Year to Date	Month Jan	month Feb	month March	Year Outturn	Status	Travel since 2020/21	Target
% of Major planning applications processed in 13 weeks	Cllr Maney	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100.00% (29)	ACHIEVED	BETTER	90%
Forecast Council Tax collected	Cllr Hebb	97.96%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.2%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	98%
% of refuse bins emptied on correct day	Cllr Jefferies	97.31%	99.87%	99.96%	99.95%	99.96%	99.94%	99.96%	99.95%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	98.5%
% of potholes repaired within policy and agreed timeframe	Cllr Maney	98%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99.87% (3,888)	ACHIEVED	BETTER	98%
Forecast National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) collected	Cllr Hebb	96.8%	96.8%	96.8%	96.8%	96.8%	96.8%	96.8%	98.4%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	96.8%
Tenant satisfaction with Transforming Homes	Cllr Spillman	86.5%	90.3%	88.4%	89.9%	75.0%	100%	92.9%	90.3% (102)	ACHIEVED	BETTER	85%
Number of health hazards removed as a direct result of private sector housing team intervention	Cllr Spillman	746	212	455	724	154	57	73	1,008	ACHIEVED	BETTER	1,000
Number of hubs/libraries events/activities supporting engagement in cultural /social/learning opportunities for well-being/strengthen community connections	Cllr Huelin	437	99	290	602				1,261	ACHIEVED	BETTER	360
Value of council owned property disposals	Cllr Coxshall	£460k	£537k	£2,797k	£2,797k				£9,276k	ACHIEVED	BETTER	£3m
% occupancy of council-owned business centres	Cllr Coxshall	71%	75%	75%	86.67%				87%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	80%
Proportion of older people (65+) still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/ rehabilitation	Cllr Huelin	86.40%	91.9%	84.0%	94.4%				91.1% (82)	ACHIEVED	BETTER	86.3%
Number of new Micro Enterprises started since 1 April 2021	Cllr Huelin	20	4	16	21				29	ACHIEVED	BETTER	20
% of places accessed for two year olds for early years education in the borough	Cllr Johnson	70%	71.6%	82.3%	77.27%				77%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	73%
Value of business rate base	Cllr Hebb	£283m							£289m (1/4/22)	ACHIEVED	BETTER	£277.5m
Total number of employee jobs in Thurrock (data from ONS/NOMIS)	Cllr Coxshall	66,000							73,000	ACHIEVED	BETTER	66,000
% of secondary schools judged "good" or better	Cllr Johnson	60%							70%	ACHIEVED	BETTER	63%

Average gross full-time weekly wage in Thurrock for those living in Thurrock	Cllr Coxshall	£630.60							£670.60	ACHIEVED	BETTER	£631.70
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Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	Quarter 3 Year to Date	In Month Jan	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Number of applicants with family commitments in Bed & Breakfast for six weeks or more (ie presenting as homeless with dependent child(ren) or are pregnant)	Cllr Spillman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ACHIEVED	STATIC	0
Overall spend to budget on HRA (£K variance against forecast)	Cllr Spillman	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	ACHIEVED	STATIC	£0
% of volunteer placements filled within council	Cllr Huelin	96%	90%	93%	94%				96% (185)	ACHIEVED	STATIC	96%
Successful completion of treatment in Young People's Drug & Alcohol service (YTD)	Cllr Mayes	90%	100%	95%	96%				89%	ACHIEVED	STATIC	70%
Overall spend to budget on General Fund (% variance against forecast)	Cllr Hebb	0	0	0	0				0	ACHIEVED	STATIC	0
% of Minor planning applications processed in 8 weeks	Cllr Maney	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	90%	99.46% (184)	ACHIEVED	WORSE	90%
Permanent admissions of older people (aged 65 and over) to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population	Cllr Huelin	618.3 per 100k pop	178.4 (43)	336.1 (81)	493.8 (119)	539.5 (130)	614.2 (148)	651.5 (157)	651.5 (157)	ACHIEVED	WORSE	738.7 (178)
% of repairs completed within target	Cllr Spillman	98.3%	97.2%	95.4%	95.9%	97.0%	97.0%	95.9%	96.0% (33,423)	ACHIEVED	WORSE	95%
No of placements available within council for volunteers	Cllr Huelin	224	150	194	177				192	ACHIEVED	WORSE	190
Street Cleanliness - a) Litter	Cllr Jefferies	4.61%	6.17%	7.83%	9.50%				7.83%	ACHIEVED	WORSE	9% 90%
3&4 year olds accessing a funded nursery place (ANNUAL)	Cllr Johnson	new KPI		This indicator relies on data published by the Department for Education, which at the point of writing the report was not yet available.								

3.6 Off target indicators

At year end, thirteen (13) of the available indicators failed to meet their target.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	2	IN	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn		Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Payment rate of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs)	Cllr Gledhill	49%	60.6%	58.9%	46.9%	41.5%	59.6%	44%	54%	FAILED	BETTER	70%

The payment rate of FPNs has been below target throughout 2021/22 however at year end has achieved an improved outcome to 2019/20. This is due to factors that are outside of the control of the service, including the knock-on financial and emotional impact of COVID-19 on residents who are fined. The service has received a high level of representations and appeals over the last 12 months with requests for extended payment periods. The service continues to adopt a supportive approach agreeing payment plans on a case by case basis.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

We have been offering extended periods to pay fines to increase payment compliance as residents emerge from the pandemic and the assisted supported benefits offered by the government. We are increasing revisits to offending residents in order to assist in payment compliance. Kingdom Services are now using software to confirm the recipient's' details at the point of issuing fixed penalty notices.

At the previous meeting the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee asked for more details about the process for following up non-payment of fines. The Environmental Enforcement team are responsible for encouraging FPNs payments to be made. If a recipient fails to pay an FPN in the required 14 days an officer will attempt to contact the resident by phone call and/or sending a reminder letter. If a recipient still fails to pay the FPN the officer will conduct the necessary checks and complete a prosecution case file. This will then be submitted to the council's legal team to follow the prosecution process. It is important to note that recipients of an FPN are at liberty to NOT pay the FPN and attend court where they can submit a not guilty plea.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	2	111	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Of the children who reached their 28th day in care within the reporting period; % that had an Initial Health Assessment (IHA) within 20 working days (28 calendar days)	Cllr Johnson	57% KPI definition amended	85.2%	61.2%	58%				58.8%	FAILED	BETTER	80%

Delays to appointments have been due to a number of different factors including from health colleagues, placement changes, capacity issues, family having cancelled appointment or not attending scheduled meetings. The capacity of health colleagues has been an issue and this has been escalated to enable a joint solution to be found. Small numbers involved also impacts significantly on the percentage change. The service continues to work with new team managers and social workers to ensure they understand the paperwork and reduce delays.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

Ensuring that the paperwork (where there is consent) is sent within 5 days to health colleagues is key. The initial appointments for children within Thurrock are usually within the 20 days. However, there are capacity issues for all health authorities in England for IHAs. Delays are addressed through the weekly IHA meeting and escalated where necessary. There is regular consultation with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and regular reviewing of the data. This is ongoing.

2022/23 will see a renewed focus on the IHA and seeking consent from parents as well as agreeing with foster carers that they cannot rearrange appointments and arranging for social workers to attend with the carers. Health colleagues have indicated that there is agreement for additional resource to ensure appointments within Thurrock can be more effectively supported but the national picture remains the same and we continue to meet weekly with health colleagues to ensure that there is liaison and escalation with other LAs where they are responsible for IHA appointments.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Tranche 1	Tranche 2	Tranche 3	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	ついつコノンツー
Street Cleanliness - c) Graffiti % of surveyed areas where there is an unacceptable level of graffiti	Cllr Jefferies	3.67%	3.33%	3.83%	3.67%	3.61%	FAILED	BETTER	3%

Whilst the target was missed this was an improvement over Tranche 3 from last year and the second best score that we have ever achieved. The team continues to carry out small graffiti clearances on street furniture with all operatives carrying a small graffiti removal kit. The team also carry out large graffiti clearances when needed.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

In addition to ongoing vigilance and cleaning of graffiti by the street cleansing teams, Environmental Enforcement Officers are continuing with Operation Abercrombie and recording graffiti offences. This has seen a reduction in offending and the arrest and prosecution of one offender.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	Quarter 3 Year to Date	Month	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Total gross external income (fees & charges) (based on sales forecast)	Cllr Hebb	£6.4m	6.6m	£7.1m	£7.4m				£7.6m	FAILED	BETTER	£8m

The final position was under target and reflects the current level of fees and charges post-pandemic. A proportion of the income loss was announced as being met from Central Government funding and there are some cost reductions associated with specific income losses that further mitigate the overall position.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

This is regularly reported in detail to members as part of the programme of finance and budget reports.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	2	111		In month March	End of Year Outturn		Direction of Travel since 2020/21	
No of new apprenticeships started (inc. existing staff) (exc. LA maintained schools)	Cllr Duffin	56	10	23 (33)	6 (39)	4	2	1	46	FAILED	WORSE	62 (2.3% of workforce)

Overall, the council had 46 new apprentice starts in 2021/22 which represents 1.7% of the overall workforce against a public sector target of 2.3%. This ranks us better than the average for local authorities which was 1.2% (as reported by the Local Government Association).

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

The government has removed the mandatory targets for each authority for 2022/23. This enables the organisation to focus on how it can offer apprenticeships most effectively rather than focussing on an arbitrary number that does not take into account the local situation. The council will continue to monitor and encourage services to offer apprentices through the Apprentice Champions within each directorate, including the offer of apprenticeships to existing staff as part of their continued professional development.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
% of primary schools judged "good" or better	Cllr Johnson	92%	90.0%	FAILED	WORSE	92%

Four primary academy schools had an Ofsted Inspection in the financial year 2021/22. Of those, three retained their "good" outcome and one was downgraded to "requires improvement".

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

The service met with leaders at the Academy which has been rated as "requiring improvement" to identify where support could be provided. The Trust has indicated that they have strong partnerships within their Trust to support the school to improve. There are a number of schools that are due a reinspection. The service meets with all schools annually to identify those at risk of poor Ofsted outcomes and these are discussed where appropriate with the Reginal Schools Commissioners Office as well as with school leaders. The Harris Teaching School Hub Lead and the council's Strategic Lead meet annually to identify continued professional development and improvement needs within the local authority area.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	At Month end Jan	At Month end Feb	At Month end March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	
Proportion of people using social care who receive direct payments	Cllr Huelin	34.4%	33.1%	31.5%	31.1%	31.1%	31.6%	31.1%	31.1% (450)	FAILED	WORSE	33%

Indicator is 1.9% under target, however, Thurrock is still performing 4.5% above the latest national average (26.6% 20/21) and 6% above the latest regional average (25.1% 20/21). Out of 1,447 long term community services in place at month end, 450 were direct payments.

In order to support hospitals during COVID, new national measures were put in place to provide up to six weeks free care (four weeks from July 2021) to anyone being discharged from hospital, funded under the national Covid Hospital Discharge Policy. As such, individuals leaving hospital are placed in free commissioned services (such as home care). As a consequence, for those individuals who require ongoing care beyond the free period, most are staying with the home care provider they are already receiving support from, rather than moving to a direct payment where they would be required to make their own care arrangements, resulting in a slow uptake of new direct payments.

In addition, the pandemic has resulted in fewer personal assistants and other independent services being available, causing difficulties in individuals sourcing their own care, resulting in more individuals moving from direct payments to council commissioned services. Due to the continuing uncertainty around the pandemic, these individuals are reluctant to move back to a direct payment at this time.

Following the ending of the Section 75 agreement with Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT), all of the cases transferred back into the Local Authority were reviewed and some cases were identified where the direct payments were no longer current. This has also resulted in a reduction in the overall number of people receiving direct payments.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

Communications have been circulated to practitioners and managers to promote direct payments and ensure that everyone eligible for a direct payment is offered one during the assessment and support planning process. Direct payments will continue to be promoted through communications with practitioners. Manager's authorising the commissioning of new services have also been reminded to ensure that the option of direct payments has been explored with individuals before a commissioned service is authorised.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of direct payments over the final quarter of the year, however uptake remains slow owing to the issues described and because the number of people in community council-commissioned services has also increased, there has been little change to the percentage over the year.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	2	In Month Jan		In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
% General tenant satisfaction with neighbourhoods/services provided by Housing	Cllr Spillman	75.5%	72.8%	73.6%	73.2%	73.9%	80.4%	72.6%	73.8% (1,455)	FAILED	WORSE	75%

During 2021/22 nearly two thousand tenants (circa 20% of all tenants) took part in our perception surveys. Overall, 73.8% of tenants gave a rating of "very satisfied" or "fairly satisfied", 11.5% of tenants gave a neutral rating and 14.7% gave a negative rating of "fairly dissatisfied" or "very dissatisfied".

A key area for dissatisfaction in 2021/22 was due to a significant increase in negative feedback relating to council services not delivered by Housing including refuse collection, street sweeping, housing benefit and abandoned vehicles. These ratings have negatively impacted the 2021/22 satisfaction rate by 1.4%. In terms of Housing related feedback, the clear driver for dissatisfaction with the overall service provided by housing is repairs and maintenance. This accounted for 29.7% of all negative, housing-related feedback.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

The survey has been amended to refocus on services delivered by housing only. Early indications in 2022/23 show that this has positively impacted satisfaction levels. The service is also now making telephone calls to tenants who indicate they are dissatisfied with repairs in order to better understand the drivers of dissatisfaction with repairs and maintenance at a more granular level, to resolve any issues with existing repairs and to progress any outstanding or unreported repairs.

New business intelligence dashboards have been developed which enable a drill down into much greater detail than previously possible to understand the reasons for dissatisfaction with the overall Housing service as well as a range of other measures such as repairs, quality of home and keeping tenants informed amongst others. These dashboards are now operational and will enable the councilto identify issues much quicker. The dashboards will be continuously developed throughout 2022/23.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	3	Month	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn		Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
% Rent collected	Cllr Spillman	98.3%	89.5%	93.0%	94.9%	95.7%	96.2%	97.2%	97.2%	FAILED	WORSE	98%

There are many contributory factors for the failure to reach the set target, the majority of which are linked to the effects of the pandemic and the resulting reduction in available income. The number of our tenants claiming benefits during this period increased significantly. Many who had been furloughed for the first year of lockdowns and restrictions stopped working completely and new Universal Credit claims by our tenants increased from 3,094 to 3,706, an increase of 20%. Many of these tenants receive either full or partial housing costs which creates a delay in payment and an accumulation of arrears which is difficult to address. In addition, the migration of tenants across from housing and legacy benefits to Universal Credit continued throughout the year and in some cases resulted in a six week wait for housing costs as opposed to weekly Housing Benefit.

Despite financial inclusion referrals for all tenants making a new claim or transferring as part of the migration process, there are issues - particularly when it comes to Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) involvement - where the council does not have any control. The removal of the Universal Credit uplift occurred in October and many Universal Credit claimants saw this as a reduction in benefit rather than an ending of a temporary support measure and did not budget for this. Over the final quarter of the year the increase in fuel costs, rising food prices and general cost of living increases left many tenants facing a deficit in outgoings versus income. The promotion and take up of the Essential Living Fund (ELF) scheme fuel vouchers helped alleviate this slightly but it has given us some indication of the issues to be faced into 2022/23 as the energy price cap rise starts to affect household finances further.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

2021/22 will be more difficult in many ways than the past year and the measures taken will require careful consideration of resources and utilisation of all funds available. While the council is currently uncertain of how the most recently announced Household Support Fund monies will be distributed, it is to be hoped that Essential Living Fund will be allocated with an amount to assist our most vulnerable tenants with fuel costs. Promotion of the ELF scheme along with enhanced support for our tenants via financial inclusion and possible additional resources within the Financial Inclusion Team, promotion of referrals to Sanctuary Floating Support – aimed at helping people, who might otherwise struggle to cope, to live independently in their own home - to assist tenants with budgeting and debt advice and education by officers on prioritisation of essential outgoings will be at the forefront of the team's efforts in the coming year.

The automation of low stage arrears actions will free up officers' time to take more in-depth action and look at complex cases in a more holistic way. This will alleviate the need for officers to spend time investigating missing payments and concentrate on actual support and collection. Stronger links are being built with DWP to address issues which have arisen in the past year and using the business intelligence reports to identify trends should mean issues are dealt with earlier than would previously have been the case.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	Quarter 3 Year to Date	Month	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn		Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Average time to turnaround/re-let	Cllr	47.5	30.2	31.4	32.5	42.0	33.7	26.8	34.7	FAILED	WORSE	28 days
voids (in days)	Spillman	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	FAILED	WORSE	20 days

Average void re-let time performance can be broken down by two void types, general needs and sheltered voids. General needs voids made up the majority of the cohort of voids (71.3%) in 2021/22. The average re-let time for general needs voids was 28.2 days, marginally above the 28 day target.

For sheltered voids, which account for 28.7% of the cohort of voids, the average re-let time in 2021/22 was 50.6 days. However, there is a clear disparity in turnaround performance between sheltered voids with an entrance door on the ground floor and sheltered voids with an entrance door on the first floor or higher. The average re-let time for sheltered voids with an entrance door on the ground floor in 2021/22 was 25 days and on target compared to 73.7 days average for other floors. Sheltered voids with an entrance door on the first floor or higher, which make up a very small proportion of voids overall (15.1%), is the clear driver of void re-let time underperformance and are substantially affecting the overall average re-let time. These voids are generally difficult to let.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

An improvement plan is currently in development and a number of actions have been identified in order to improve void re-let time performance, specifically in relation to sheltered voids with entrance doors above the ground floor. A number of the actions within the draft improvement plan have already been implemented with further measures under consideration including:

- implementation of a communications action plan to promote sheltered housing. It is anticipated that this will improve awareness of sheltered housing and reduce number of hard to let voids.
- the sheltered housing web page has been reviewed and updated to ensure information is up to date, clear and concise.
- the sheltered housing team is now in regular contact with a number of other teams across the council in order to identify suitable tenants and are being flexible in relation to the lower age limit for sheltered housing
- a dedicated Sheltered Housing Officer has been assigned to this area to improve performance and is currently pro-actively contacting tenants to support them to move from larger properties, is part of the decommissioning working group, is working closely with the allocations team to identify suitable tenants and is supporting the fast tracking of paperwork.
- contact with other local authorities to share best practice.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	2	l III	In month Feb	In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
% of young people who reoffend after a previously recorded offence	Cllr Johnson	17.0%	17.0%	3.0%	26.0%				32.0%	FAILED	WORSE	20%

The final locally produced reoffending rate for 2021/22 is 32%. This figure is based on local data and monitors a smaller and more recent cohort than the national Ministry of Justice (MOJ) figures. This has increased in comparison to the last financial year due to a small cohort containing some prolific offenders. The national Youth Data Summary (110) published by the MOJ highlights the borough's re-offending rate at 36.4% which is slightly above the national average at 33.3%.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

The primary aim of all youth offending teams is to reduce the offending of children in line with the expectations of the Youth Justice Board. Thurrock's current Youth Justice Plan sets the council's strategic direction and highlights six priorities designed to address the offending of local children. Within the plan the council has made a strong commitment to diverting young people away from the criminal justice system by introducing an Out of Court Disposal Panel. The panel is designed to reduce first time entrants and will consequently reduce reoffending.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Total number of homes permitted through Planning	Cllr Maney	195	506	FAILED	BETTER	950

Whilst the target has not been met this figure needs to be looked at in context. In 2021/22, 506 new homes were consented through planning decisions made, though fewer homes were actually built. Whilst the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill hints at providing powers to local authorities to compel developers to complete developments, there is presently very little that local authorities can do to encourage developers to build out planning permissions.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

The service has a low amount of planning permissions and also low recent housing completions figures - in 2021/22 the completions figure was 319. It is not easy to provide comment on how to address this as it is down to private developers to both apply for planning permission and then complete the builds, however the new Local Plan will allocate sites for circa 30,000 new homes, providing competition within the market and an incentive for developers to build more new homes in the borough.

Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Quarter 1 Year to Date	Quarter 2 Year to Date	9	1111	In month March	End of Year Outturn	Target Status	Direction of Travel since 2020/21	2021/22 Target
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family adjusted for foster carer adoptions, for children who have been adopted (days) (rolling 12 months)	Cllr Johnson	amended KPI	378	375	341			519	FAILED	n/a	426

The reason for the increase in the final quarter was due to just one case which required an extended process.

ROUTE TO GREEN IN 2022/23

As the increase in timescale was caused by exceptional circumstances there are no immediate actions planned in this regard.

3.7 Other key indicators

3.7.1 Throughout the year the council also monitors some other indicators as part of the corporate scorecard which, whilst not performance related, are important to keep under review:

Demand Indicator Definition	Portfolio Holder 2021/22	2020/21 Outturn	Q1 Year to Date	Q2 Year to Date	Q3 Year to Date	In Month Jan	In month Feb		Final Outturn 2021/22	Direction of Travel since 2020/21
No of households at risk of homelessness approaching the Council for assistance	Cllr Spillman	1,826	440	909	1,314	167	170	173	1,824	STATIC
	Cllr Spillman	211	35	101	153	9	6	14	182	LOWER

The Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) 2017 places a duty on local authorities to prevent homelessness or relieve homelessness where this is not possible. The number of approaches include all who have approached the council for housing assistance. A number of these cases were prevented and homelessness has been relieved.

The acceptances are low in comparison to approaches because the service deal with a greater number of cases by preventing and relieving homelessness before they reach the "main duty" stage, which is the stage at which acceptances are recorded.

The council primarily uses the private rented sector to source accommodation for applicants which is secured through regular contact with landlords and estate agents. Tenancy Sustainment Officers and Financial Inclusion Officers then work with the tenant to ensure that the relevant benefits are applied for to enable them to sustain their tenancy. In addition to this, the council also utilises the services of the Community and Employment Support Officer to support applicants into training and employment.

The service also prevents homelessness by negotiating and working with landlords and excluders (someone the applicant currently lives with who has asked the applicant to leave their property) to keep the applicants in the property they are approaching us from or negotiating a planned move into suitable accommodation.

The council did start to see some increases in approaches towards the end of the year – as can be seen above in the monthly data. However, overall 2021/22 was remarkably similar to the outturn seen in 2020/21. The council continue to closely monitor any changes in approaches for homelessness particularly in light of COVID recovery and cost of living pressures throughout 2022/23.

3.8 Review of the Corporate Performance Framework for 2022/23

As the council will be refreshing the borough vision and purpose, the underlying corporate performance framework will need to evolve to enable reporting to be better aligned – and be clearer to all audiences - to the council's overall strategic priorities and plans. It is anticipated that a framework for how this will be shared with members as part of the quarter 1 corporate performance reporting cycle later this year.

Key changes include a new split between short-term KPIs (activities which occur day-to-day in nature and best measured in timescales of years) and medium/long timescales for strategic objectives (i.e., major projects), which do not fit in within a typical municipal year form of timescale measurement, but typically have 'milestones' during the length of a project. This way, operational matters can be monitored and challenged and strategic delivery will be both more open to all audiences and any pull-forward/slippage of strategic delivery made clear to all elected members.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 The corporate priorities and associated performance framework are fundamental to articulating what the council is aiming to achieve both in the short-term and over the long-term. It is best practice to report on the performance of the council. It shows effective levels of governance and transparency and showcases strong performance as well as an acknowledgement of where we need to improve.
- 4.2 This report also confirms the governance and monitoring mechanisms which were in place.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- Performance against the corporate priorities was monitored through Performance Board, a cross-council officer group of performance experts representing each service. Performance Board will continue to consider the corporate KPIs on a monthly basis, highlighting areas of particular focus to Directors Board.
- 5.2 Each quarter a report is presented to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and finally reported to Cabinet.
- 5.3 There were some questions asked at the last O&S Committee in relation to quarter 3 data which required additional clarification. Some of this information has been included in section 3.6 where indicators have not met the end of year target. Other questions are answered below:
- 5.3.1 The Committee queried the KPI relating to private sector housing health hazards and asked what the difference was between a category 1 and a category 2 health hazard and for examples of each.

The council has powers under the Housing Act 2004 to deal with disrepair issues in privately rented properties where landlords have failed to act and the tenant reports their concerns to the council. Where an inspection is required, an assessment using the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) is carried out.

HHSRS inspections give 'hazard scores' for 29 health and safety areas. The scores are based on the risk of harm to an actual or potential occupier of a dwelling which results from a deficiency in the dwelling and the seriousness of

that harm. Particular vulnerable age groups are those under 5 years old and the elderly.

The government HHSRS guidance describes a category 1 hazard as covering the most extreme harm outcomes with examples including from any cause, lung cancer, mesothelioma (linked to asbestos exposure), permanent paralysis below the neck, permanent loss of consciousness or 80% burn injuries.

Category 2 hazards cover severe harm outcomes, with examples including cardio-respiratory disease/asthma, crytosporidiosis or legionnaires disease (linked to water contamination), regular severe fever, loss of a hand or foot, serious fractures, serious burns, loss of consciousness for days.

5.3.2 In relation to the indicator which shows the percentage of the borough where litter from people discarding or not controlling waste in public areas is at an unacceptable level, which was performing on target, the Committee asked whether it was possible to get more detailed information at a ward level. And also asked for more information about what we are doing to discourage people from littering.

The data from the Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) street cleanliness surveys is provided at a ward level for 2021-22 in the table below. These inspections are a snapshot in time. A grade of A is exceptional, B is considered acceptable with anything below a B requiring intervention.

Ward	Litter Grade					
	Α	B+	В	B-	C	D
Aveley and Uplands		10	37	11	2	
Chadwell St Mary	1	19	35	4	1	
Chafford and North Stifford	2	16	36	4		
Corringham and Fobbing	1	21	33	4	1	
Grays Riverside		17	39	3	1	
Grays Thurrock		1	37	5	1	
Little Thurrock Blackshots		10	39	9	1	
Little Thurrock Rectory	1	12	35	2	2	
South Chafford		6	41	13		
Stanford East and Corringham Town		26	29	5		
Stanford-le-Hope West	3	16	32	3	1	
Stifford Clays		6	39	13	1	1
Tilbury Riverside and Thurrock Park	1	10	39	9	1	
Tilbury St Chads		7	33	14	1	
West Thurrock and South Stifford		6	44	7		
Grand Total	9	183	548	106	13	1

With regard to the action taken to prevent littering, there is an active programme of enforcement in place with a high level of fines being issued

each year for across the borough for littering. In addition to this the service supports a number of community litter picks both as organised events and by providing individuals with litter pickers and bags on request. Furthermore, the service is working in partnership with Oceans Together and the Essex Wildlife Trust to ensure that there is an active programme of environmental education within schools.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The vision and priorities cascade into every bit of the council and further to our partners, through key strategies, service plans, team plans and individual objectives.
- 6.2 This report will help decision makers and other interested parties, form a view of the success of the council's actions in working towards achieving the vision and priority ambitions.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: Laura Last

Senior Management Accountant

The report provides an update on performance against corporate priorities. There are financial KPIs within the corporate scorecard, the performance of which are included in the report. Where there are issues of underperformance, any recovery planning commissioned by the council may entail future financial implications and will need to be considered as appropriate. The council continues to assess the full financial impact of COVID-19 and this is being regularly reported to members.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: Gina Clarke

Corporate Governance Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation of this report. However under s3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999, local authorities have general duty to obtain Best Value by making arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Effective KPIs are useful in ensuring and monitoring the level of service delivery of the Council's services and activities. Where there are issues of

underperformance, any recovery planning commissioned by the Council or associated individual priority projects may have legal implications, and as such will need to be addressed separately as decisions relating to those specific activities are considered.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: Rebecca Lee

Team Manager - Community Development and Equalities

The Corporate Performance Framework for 2021/22 contains measures that help determine the level of progress with meeting wider diversity and equality ambitions, including attainment, independent living, vulnerable adults, volunteering etc. Individual commentary has been given throughout the year within the regular monitoring reports regarding progress and actions.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health Inequalities, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, and Impact on Looked After Children

The Corporate Performance Framework includes areas which affect a wide variety of issues, including those noted above in the body of the report. Where applicable these are covered within the report.

8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright): N/A

9. Appendices to the report

n/a

Report Author:

Sarah Welton
Strategy Manager

Strategy, Engagement and Growth



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Work Programme

Committee: Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Year: 2022/23

Dates of Meetings: 12 July 2022, 6 October 2022, 8 December 2022, 2 February 2023

Topic	Lead Officer	Requested by Officer/Member		
12	July 2022			
Asset Review and 3Rs	David Johnson	Officers		
End of Year (April 2021 to March 2022) Corporate Performance Report 2021/22	Sarah Welton/ Karen Wheeler	Officers		
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item		
6 Oc	ctober 2022			
Finance Update 2022/23	Sean Clark	Officers		
Thameside Report	Sean Clark	Members		
Levelling Up Update	Karen Wheeler	Members		
Thames Freeport Update	Sean Clark/Karen Wheeler	Officers		
Quarter 1 (April to June 2022) Corporate Performance Report 2022/23 and Corporate Performance Framework	Sarah Welton/Karen Wheeler	Officers		
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item		
8 December 2022				

Work Programme

Topic	Lead Officer	Requested by Officer/Member				
Mid-Year/Quarter 2 (June-September 2022) Corporate Performance Report 2022/23	Sarah Welton/Karen Wheeler	Officers				
Local Council Tax Scheme	Andy Brittain/ Sean Clark	Members				
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item				
2 February 2023						
Draft General Fund Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	Jonathan Wilson/Sean Clark	Officers				
Capital Strategy 2022/23	Jonathan Wilson/Sean Clark	Officers				
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item				

To add:

• Quarter 3 (April-December 2021) Corporate Performance Report 2021/22 – Sarah Welton/Karen Wheeler

Updated: 1st July 2022

Clerk: Lucy Tricker