

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee -(Regeneration and Skills)	Date of Meeting:	27 June 2023
Subject:	Cabinet Member Reports – February 2023 to June 2023		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Communities and Housing; Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element) Locality Services; Planning and Building Control; and Regeneration and Skills		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To submit the Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing; Locality Services; Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element); Planning and Building Control; and Regeneration and Skills reports relating to the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the period February 2023 to June 2023; and to update on information requested at the last meeting of the Committee held on 7 March 2023.

Recommendation(s):

That:

- (1) the Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing; Locality Services; Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element); Planning and Building Control; and Regeneration and Skills reports relating to the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted; and
- (2) the information requested at the last meeting of the Committee held on 7 March 2023 and as referred to in paragraphs 2.3 to 2.5 of the report be noted.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered because the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

Any financial implications associated with the Cabinet Member report that are referred to in this update are contained within the respective reports.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

(B) Capital Costs – see above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):	
Legal Implications:	
Equality Implications:	
There are no direct equality implications arising from this report. Any equality implications arising from the consideration of reports referred to in the Cabinet Member reports will be contained in such reports when they are presented to Members at the appropriate time.	
Impact on Children and Young People: No	
There are no direct impacts on children and young people arising from this report. Any implications arising from the consideration of reports referred to in the Cabinet Member reports will be contained in such reports when they are presented to Members at the appropriate time.	
Climate Emergency Implications:	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	No
Have a neutral impact	Yes
Have a negative impact	No
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes
There are no direct climate emergency implications arising from this report. Any climate emergency implications arising from the consideration of reports referred to in the Cabinet Member reports will be contained in such reports when they are presented to Members at the appropriate time.	

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report. The Cabinet Member update provides information on activity within Councillor Atkinson's, Fairclough's, Hardy's, Moncur's (relating to Green Sefton) and Veidman's portfolios during a previous two/three-month period. Any reports relevant to their portfolio considered by the Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Committees during this period would contain information as to how such reports contributed to the Council's Core Purpose.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: As above
Commission, broker and provide core services: As above
Place – leadership and influencer: As above
Drivers of change and reform: As above
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: As above
Greater income for social investment: As above
Cleaner Greener: As above

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Cabinet Member Update Report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any subsequent reports arising from the attached Cabinet Member update report will be included in those reports as appropriate

Assistant Director of People – Communities
Assistant Director of People – Operational In-House Services
Assistant Director of Place – Highways and Public Protection

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee / Council meeting.

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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing
Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element)
Cabinet Member - Locality Services
Cabinet Member – Planning and Building Control
Cabinet Member - Regeneration and Skills

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.2 In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 1.2 Attached to this report, for information, are the most recent Cabinet Member reports for the Communities and Housing, Locality Services; Planning and Building Control; Regeneration and Skills and Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element) portfolios.

2. Matters Considered at the Previous Meeting of the Committee

- 2.1 At its meeting held on 7 March 2023 the Committee, upon consideration of the Cabinet Member reports, requested (Minute No. 42) various pieces of information from Cabinet Members.
- 2.2 The Senior Democratic Services Officer was requested to forward the queries to the relevant Cabinet Members and Officers for response. The information requested, together with the responses received is set out below.
- 2.3 **Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing Portfolio**

Details were requested on a cost benefit analysis of the Atkinson.

Response:

The following information has been provided by the Localities Team Manager, Communities:

The Atkinson is a key destination for Sefton's residents and visitors to enjoy a wide-ranging cultural offer. In 2020 Museums Development North-West estimated that the Atkinson contributed an annual visitor impact of £2,698,130 to the local economy. With the average single day tourism visitor now spending approximately £46 each, the Atkinson's programme continues to attract a significant amount of income for the visitor economy. In the last financial year the centre welcomed 353,417 visits. Theatrical shows delivered during the period generated £920,311 gross ticket sales, welcoming new audiences to its performance spaces.

In addition to this positive economic impact the Atkinson enriches Sefton's communities with the social value of its diverse programme -

The museum and exhibitions programme plays a key role in the safeguarding and promotion of Sefton's heritage. Exhibitions are frequently featured across popular media platforms including regional television and radio features.

The educational programme welcomes school visits from across the Borough and its family programme ensures young families are stimulated with cultural activities during the term breaks.

In terms of partnerships the centre supports community wellbeing groups for social prescribing and enables people who would otherwise be at risk of social isolation to engage with their local community. The Atkinson hosts Southport's One Stop Shop and its café is delivered by the Autism Initiatives team.

The library offers a range of free services supporting the development of literacy, digital skills, cultural engagement and the provision of information. It also participates in Sefton's Warm Hub programme.

Active participation is a key theme of the Atkinson programme – this year's Sefton Open exhibition celebrates artistic talent from across the Borough and features over 700 artworks. At present the centre engages a cohort of over 80 volunteers who support its wide-ranging programme and benefit themselves from their active participation.

The Atkinson continues to develop its reputation as a major cultural destination in the region. In 2020 the Atkinson won the Arts Organisation of the Year and People's Choice categories at the Liverpool City Region Culture & Creativity Awards. The 2022 Visit England Assessment Service awarded an overall score of 87%, continuing the trend of increasing scores in consecutive years with a retention of its 'Very Good' rating.

The total budget for the Atkinson is £1.705m, which includes the budgeted income generated. Excluding uncontrollable budgets (NNDR, internal recharges etc) the budget is £1.350m, the majority of which is attributed to salary and premises costs, and daily running costs. Where possible, the core budget is supplemented with external funding arising from partnership projects and applications for cultural grants. As well as developing programming this funding can also lead to environmental investment which helps to reduce building overheads.

2.4 Cabinet Member - Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element) Portfolio

Information was requested on progress made with the Strategy for Allotment Focus Groups.

Response:

The following information has been provided by the Green Sefton Service Manager:

The Council has indeed undertaken a public and tenant survey on allotments to provide data which could be used in the preparation of an Allotment Strategy. To further test the conclusions reached, and to provide a secondary means of collecting information on the wishes of tenants, an Allotment Focus Group was recently formed. This meeting brought together representatives from different sites to explore potential ideas to development allotments in the future. The information sourced from this was presented to Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing, and it is intended that the information be used as the Council moves to prepare its new Allotment Strategy 2024/29. It is anticipated that a first drafting will be presented to Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing in the autumn for adoption at the end of this financial year.

2.5 **Cabinet Member - Locality Services Portfolio**

Clarification was sought regarding the implementation of LED street lighting across the Borough.

Response: At the time of preparing this report a response has not been received. A response will be circulated prior to the meeting as part of a supplementary agenda.

Information was sought on CCTV capacity and links with enforcement.

Response:

The following information has been provided by the Service Manager, Sefton Arc:

Regarding CCTV for enforcement, Sefton Arc used to use deployable CCTV cameras which contained a mobile phone sim which would enable the camera images to be accessed via the Sefton Arc control room. These cameras were initially paid for by Ward councillors from devolved budgets, but it was found after number of years that funds were not available to pay the bills for sim usage which was a considerable amount each month being paid from Sefton Arc budget. Subsequently, the Alarms Manager had all of these sims terminated.

The camera option now being used is a camera which Sefton Arc install, has a hard drive recording to the pole and the cleansing team go to the sites to download images to laptops. This has taken away the running costs of the use of sims.