



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Council Improvement Objectives for 2022-23</b>
<b>Date:</b>	18th February, 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Patricia Flynn, Strategic Policy and Planning Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sometime in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>				
1.1	To present the draft corporate improvement objectives for 2022-23 and to seek Committee approval to issue these for public consultation in line with our statutory performance duty obligations.				
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>				
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to agree the draft improvement objectives for 2022-23 and, subject to any amendments, approve their issue for public consultation in line with statutory guidance.</p> <p>The proposed improvement objectives for 2022-23 are as follows:</p> <table border="1"><tr><td><b>Our Services</b></td></tr><tr><td>We will continue to adapt and improve our services</td></tr><tr><td><b>Our Communities</b></td></tr><tr><td>We will work to support our communities, helping them to become stronger, healthier and more resilient</td></tr></table>	<b>Our Services</b>	We will continue to adapt and improve our services	<b>Our Communities</b>	We will work to support our communities, helping them to become stronger, healthier and more resilient
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<b>Our Communities</b>					
We will work to support our communities, helping them to become stronger, healthier and more resilient					

<b>Our Economy</b>
We will work collaboratively to support businesses, jobs and inclusive growth
<b>Our Environment</b>
We will champion climate action; protect the environment and improve the sustainability of Belfast
<b>Our City</b>
We will continue to support our city to recover and innovate in a safe, inclusive and sustainable way

**3.0 Key Issues**

- 3.1 The Council has a statutory duty to agree improvement objectives and produce an annual improvement plan by 30th June each year. The Improvement plan does not represent everything that council plans to do, but instead focuses on a smaller set of key improvement priorities, as informed by resident priorities and evidenced by need. Normally, we align our improvement objectives to the key priorities within our corporate plan and the Belfast Agenda. However, last year we realigned the improvement plan to the recovery plan and, due to the covid restrictions in place, had to adjust or refocus our improvement actions. This year as we transition from the impacts of the pandemic, we have once again adapted our improvement objectives so that they provide an appropriate balance between our corporate planning and recovery work.
- 3.2 The strategic structure used in 2021-22 to explain our improvement objectives appeared to be well received by residents. Therefore, we have retained this format for 2022–23 as it allows us to incorporate Covid-19 considerations and articulate council specific improvement in a meaningful way for the public. However, rather than retain our digital innovation as an improvement objective on its own, we have amalgamated this work into the “Our City” objective. Whilst digital innovation is a significant programme of work, this brings it into line with other similar programmes (such as leisure transformation and customer focus) and improves strategic focus. Appendix 1 sets out our proposed improvement objectives for 2022-23, including how they align to our corporate plan and the emerging Belfast Agenda refresh, and the indicative improvement actions that we propose to deliver during the coming year.
- Next Steps**
- 3.3 Councils are legally required to consult on their improvement objectives and to publish an Improvement Plan by 30th June each year. Subject to approval, we will issue the improvement objectives for public consultation via our on-line engagement platform for a period of 8 weeks. During this time, we will work with departments to develop detailed actions, milestones and performance indicators and update as needed based on public feedback. This improvement

activity will be reflected within the corporate plan, committee plans or other strategic programmes, thereby ensuring that improvement is embedded within our planning and delivery processes. A final report and draft improvement plan will be brought to the Committee for ratification and publication in June.

SP and R – Draft Improvement Objectives for consultation	18th Feb 2022
Improvement Objectives: 8 week consultation	Mar - Apr 2022
Services refine actions and PIs	Mar - May 2022
SP and R approves Improvement Plan for online publication	June 2022
Publish Improvement Plan	By 30th June 2022

**Financial and Resource Implications**

3.4 There are no financial implications.

**Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment**

3.5 There are no equality or rural need implications arising directly from this report.

**4.0 Document Attached**

Appendix - Review of Corporate Improvement Objectives and indicative actions: 2022-23