

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Housing and Environment
DATE: 12 March 2013
DIRECTOR: Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT: Housing and Environment Business Plan
Performance and Actions
REPORT NUMBER: H&E/13/012

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present committee with key performance measures and progress of key improvement work within the Housing and Environment Directorate.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) Provide comments and observations on the performance information contained in the report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct implications arising out of this report, although a number of comments are made on the use of resources.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The performance reporting framework is integrated with the Council's ambition of being a top performing Council which delivers on the Community Plan and the Administration's Policy Statement.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other direct implications arising out of this report regarding legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, sustainability and environmental, health and safety; although a number of comments are made on the use of resources

6. REPORT

This report presents members with key performance measures and progress of key improvement work within the Housing and Environment Directorate.

This report also comprises of a progress report from the Director.

Performance information and Actions progress are input and updated through Covalent, the corporate performance reporting system, by the relevant lead officers. The data is reviewed and managed within the Directorate by the Director and Senior Management Team.

Within the report the following symbols are used:

Performance Measures

Traffic Light Icon



On target or within 5% of target



Within 5% and 20 % of target and being monitored



Below 20% of target and being actively pursued



Data only PI as there is no target set

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

Director's Progress Report
Housing and Environment
15/01/13 – 11/03/13

Community Safety Hub - The Community Safety Hub is now operational with the first of the staff from the Council, Grampian Police and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service moving into the Hub on 14 January 2013. The Hub is a dedicated office environment for community safety partners and is located in the Frederick Street Centre. Co-locating services enables greater collaboration towards the delivery of more effective and sustainable solutions to enhance community safety in Aberdeen. A new daily tasking and co-ordination group process is central to Hub operations. This is a 'short and sharp' daily meeting to review community safety incidents that have occurred over the previous 24 hours. This enables quicker identification of emerging problems and therefore improved responses. The daily tasking meeting will principally focus on fire safety, violence, domestic abuse and antisocial behaviour incidents. A formal launch with media opportunities will be made around April 2013.

CCTV Accreditation - In December the Council CCTV Control Room Operators passed a BTEC Advanced Award on CCTV legislation. The course was designed to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the legal complexities surrounding the monitoring, storage and use of the CCTV footage gathered through our multi storey CCTV system.

Victoria House Demolition - Work has begun to demolish a former hostel in the centre of Aberdeen to make way for a new homelessness prevention facility for the city. Victoria House, West North Street, has lain empty for a number of years with the site to be redeveloped to create 20 flats and 20 supported units for the homeless. Contractor Hunter Demolition is on site now with the site expected to be cleared for redevelopment by the end of March. The new homelessness unit will comprise a three-storey block for short-term supported accommodation for homeless people, providing 20 bedsits with en-suite shower facilities. Communal facilities will be provided at ground floor level, comprising kitchen, laundry, lounge and staff accommodation. A six-storey block will provide 20 flats, ranging from one to four-bedroom properties, for independent living for homeless people in a secure environment. The project is expected to be complete by July 2014.

Middlefield /Haudagain update - The recent announcement regarding the “go ahead” of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) will see the commencement of the Haudagain Junction Improvement start on site in 2018. This junction improvement will see the creation of a dual carriageway link road between Auchmill Road and North Anderson Drive which will have a huge impact on local residents and services within the Logie/Middlefield area. The purpose of this improvement is to provide an optimum solution for the current traffic congestion. As a result of this new link road, approximately 276 properties will be affected by this project. Some of these affected properties are both council and

private homes along with valued local services. Officers will now consider the implications of prioritising the affected Middlefield area and common sense linkages with the emerging delivery programme for the Middlefield regeneration area. Once we have viable options for the residents of Middlefield, ACC will extensively consult with all residents. Work with relevant stakeholders and the Scottish Government will continue and updates will be provided as necessary.

Tillydrone Regeneration - Following the report to committee last October regarding “Tillydrone - A Way Forward”, further site investigation is underway to establish the viability of the ear marked sites to be taken forward. Links have been established with members from the Tillydrone Network group and officers attended their latest meeting on 28 January to discuss and answer any queries regarding the proposals. It has been agreed to use this forum to report back on progress and discuss any concerns that arise from the community. A full detailed work programme is currently being devised.

APSE Finalist - Chris Black our 3rd year Apprentice plumber has been selected as a Scottish Apprentice of the Year finalist for the 2nd year in a row by APSE. Chris works on the Central Heating contracts and was selected by his mentor Doug Gibb, to enter in to the awards category of Scottish Apprentice of the Year. This involved Chris and Doug making up a portfolio of Chris's college work, on site work and college reports also any achievements, which was easy as Chris had won Best Plumbing Apprentice at Tullos Training College in 1st year and 2nd year and hopefully best 3rd year apprentice this year.

Zero Waste Funding - Zero Waste Scotland has awarded grants to run two pilot projects across the City; covering a Tenement Inventories Fund and a Tenement Communications Fund. As part of the Tenement Inventories Fund amounting to £17,400, we aim to carry out inventories of all flats within the city boundary, (approx 58,000 properties), in order to provide further understanding of the existing refuse collections in these areas. The project requires surveying by hand, location of refuse containers with cameras enabled with GPS, this data is then analysed and linked into route programming software to assist in the review of route planning going forward. This will aid the implementation of future service changes including the introduction of communal food waste and dry recycling collections required to meet the Waste (Scotland) Regulations.

Financial support has also been provided to nine Scottish Local Authorities to communicate the waste message directly to flats and tenements, either to promote an existing service or expand services to these properties. Just under £3,000 has been awarded to ACC to investigate the effects of a small campaign in a restricted area. Urquhart Road has been selected for this pilot as it is a medium performing area in comparison with other areas with on-street recycling provision, has a high proportion of Victorian tenemental properties and has members of the various transient populations identified living within this area of the city. The outcomes of this project, due for completion by the end of March

2013, will be used by Zero Waste Scotland to develop future funding provisions for local authorities in relation to awareness raising campaigns.

Food waste roll out - Zero Waste Scotland has awarded £1.4 million to assist ACC with the roll out of on-street food waste collections across the City to areas not currently serviced by kerbside food waste collections. This three year project will see a phased roll out of facilities commencing with council managed high rise accommodation in spring 2013. It is the intention to roll out to approximately 40% of households by March 2014, a further 40% by March 2015 and for all 58,000 households included in this project to have access to the service by end 2015. Each household will receive a caddy, bio-liner supply and will have access to on-street facilities. Accompanying this will be a large communications campaign to raise awareness of this exciting development in our waste services.