

<b>Report title</b>	<b>Community Services Service Area Plan Update – Quarter 1 2023/2024</b>
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<b>Department</b>	Community Services
<b>Exempt</b>	No

**Purpose of report:**  
**For information**

**Synopsis of report:**  
**This report provides an overview of progress against the agreed objectives within the 2023/2024 Community Services, Service Area Plan, as of the end of Quarter 1 (Apr – Jun 2023)**

**Recommendation(s):**  
**None. This report is for information.**

**1. Context and background of report**

1.1 In January 2023, Community Services Committee approved the Service Area Plan, to be delivered by the Community Services Business Unit, in 2023-2024.

**2. Report and, where applicable, options considered and recommended**

2.1 Appendix ‘A’ provides a summary of all work priorities within the service area plan. Due to the timing of the first meeting after Quarter 1, many of these areas have progressed in Quarter 2, some of which Members will be aware of (e.g., tennis court refurbishment). However, the comments reflect the progress made within Quarter 1.

2.2 Pleasingly, most objectives are underway, and Officers are working hard to move them forward. The limited number that have not yet started, such as work surrounding the Armed Forces Covenant, are intended to progress in the coming months, with consideration of available resources to support the remaining objectives given by the team.

2.3 It is also important to note that the Community Services plan is one of the longer plans in the Council, and is to be delivered in addition to significant levels of frontline business as usual activity and other work with partners, stakeholders etc.

2.4 Equally, Members will be aware that new work tasks and items are often requested of Community Services ‘in year’, given its breadth of function and its role in directly

supporting residents and communities, and as a result, several additional objectives are requested or required.

- 2.5 The above is only included to provide context to the volume of activity in Community Services. However, in the first full year as a merged Community Services Business Unit, the aspiration to deliver on all elements of the Service Area Plan is shared across the team and it is hoped that further updates and reports to this Committee will evidence the completion of objectives throughout the year.

**3. Policy framework implications**

- 3.1 The Community Services Service Area Plan contains objectives that all meet the corporate strategy. The work of Community Services generally fits the themes of Empowering Communities and Health and Wellbeing, and objectives within the plan align to priorities within each of these strategies.

**4. Resource implications/Value for Money (where applicable)**

- 4.1 None.

**5. Legal implications**

- 5.1 None.

**6. Equality implications**

- 6.1 None.

**7. Environmental/Sustainability/Biodiversity implications**

- 7.1 None.

**8. Background papers**

None stated.

**9. Appendices**

- Appendix A Service Plan Summary Document