



Leicester
City Council

Portfolio Overview July 2018

Lead Directors: **Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services**
Director of Finance
Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides an overview of the key areas and services related to the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission.

2. Summary

The Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission's remit relates to a varying degree to the City Mayor, a number of Assistant City Mayor portfolios and Deputy City Mayor portfolios:-

Cllr Adam Clarke - Deputy City Mayor - Environment, Public Health & Health Integration

Cllr Kirk Master - Assistant City Mayor - Neighbourhood Services

Cllr Andy Connelly - Assistant City Mayor - Housing

Cllr Vi Dempster – Assistant City Mayor – Adult Social Care and Wellbeing

Cllr Piara Singh Clair - Deputy City Mayor - Culture, Leisure, Sport and Regulatory Services

Cllr Manjula Sood - Assistant City Mayor - Communities and Equalities

Cllr Mustafa Malik - Assistant City Mayor - Voluntary and Community Sector

The above Executive Leads are supported by a wide range of services which fall within the responsibility of the following Divisional Directors:-

John Leach- Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services
Alison Greenhill - Director of Finance

Miranda Cannon- Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance

This report seeks to set out the scope of the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission's portfolio and the relevant structures and services which support this. The divisional structures for

Neighbourhood and Environmental Services, Finance, and Delivery, Communications and Political Governance are appended to this report as Appendices C1 to C3 respectively.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The report is presented to the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission in order to help inform its work for the coming municipal year.
- 3.2 The Commission is asked to note the report.

4. Report

- 4.1 The Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission covers a wide range of services involving many different aspects of city life. The key areas of service are detailed in the section below.

Neighbourhood and Environmental Services Division

a) Neighbourhood Services Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Kirk Master

Head of Neighbourhood Services: Lee Warner Tel: 454 3542

The service consists of a network of up to 32 facilities, including 4 Multi Service centres, 12 standalone libraries (16 library service points in total), 16 community buildings and 2 children's Book buses. The core library offer includes free book borrowing, free computer, and internet and Wi-Fi access, access to information, children and adults learning activities, and a programme of special events such as the Summer Reading Scheme for children. Neighbourhood Services support community groups and activities, Adult Skills and Learning, food banks, room hire, children's parties, conferences events and functions. Neighbourhood Services actively promotes and develops volunteering in our centres. The service also provides support to Ward Community funding and Ward Community meetings.

Neighbourhood Services has high levels of customer contact: 2.5 million usages, with 78,000 active library users, and over 230,000 hours public PC use and 990,000 book issues.

Key priorities include:-

- To take forward the Transforming Neighbourhood Services programme to increase efficiency, bring council services together, improve customer access and make best use of buildings and staff resources.

- To develop and support community groups to engage in positive work that will enable communities to become more resilient.
- To ensure that families in Leicester are encouraged to read.
- To help residents to become included in the digital society, by offering supported and self-service access to a wide range of information.
- To engage with and empower communities to help shape the future of public services in neighbourhoods.
- To deliver reading, health, digital, information, learning and cultural offers for the residents of Leicester through our libraries and community centres as part of the national Universal Offer scheme developed by the Society of Chief Librarians in partnership with Arts Council England.

(b) Waste Management

Deputy City Mayor: Cllr Adam Clarke

Head of Waste Services: Geoff Soden Tel: 454 6732

The Waste Management team manages a 25 year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract with Biffa Leicester, for the collection, treatment and disposal of all Leicester's household waste.

The main services provided to all residents include a weekly collection of both recycling (collected using orange bags or communal bins, in which residents can recycle a wide range of items including paper, cans, cardboard, plastic containers, foil etc) and general (or residual) waste for which a black wheeled bin is provided. Other services available for residents include a bulky waste collection service, clinical and sharps collection service, two Household Waste Recycling Centres and over 60 recycling bring sites throughout Leicester.

As part of the contract Biffa Leicester operate a mechanical treatment plant at Bursom, known as the 'Ball Mill', and an anaerobic digestion facility at Wanlip. All of the waste collected from residents' black general waste bins is processed by the 'Ball Mill'. This processing diverts three streams of waste away from landfill:-

1. Metals are extracted and sent for recycling.
2. Light materials such as plastics, paper and cardboard are extracted and are used to produce heat and energy.
3. Organic waste is extracted and sent to the anaerobic digestion facility where it is used to produce methane and a soil conditioner. The methane is then used to generate electricity which is sold to the National Grid.

The team is also responsible for the education and promotion of the services to encourage residents to recycle their waste and to engage in positive environmental behaviours. The team also works with all other Council services to provide advice and services to help each department reduce and recycle their waste.

New services offered in the last few years include a reuse shop at Gypsum Close, where unwanted items can be donated to LOROS, instead of being disposed of. There is a new trade waste facility at Gypsum Close to enable small and medium businesses the opportunity to recycle and dispose of their wastes. The service also offers a subscription based Garden Waste Service which runs from March to the end of November.

Key priorities include:-

- To support and remain committed to a comprehensive domestic waste collection service responding to residents' needs and expectations.
- To consider how the optional green waste kerbside service can be expanded and improved.
- Promote and develop the recycling services available through Leicester City Council including encouraging residents to make use of Leicester's two Household Waste Recycling Centres at Freeman's Common and Gypsum Close.

(c) Cleansing Services

Deputy City Mayor: Cllr Adam Clarke

Head of Parks & Open Spaces: Stewart Doughty Tel: 0116 454 3789

Parks & Open Spaces Operations Manager: Michael Walker Tel: 0116 454 4995

The Cleansing Services section currently provides a street cleansing service across the whole of the city, cleaning over 630 miles of streets on a weekly basis, removing 4,350 tonnes of litter annually and over 8,500 fly tipping incidents. The service is organised into local hand-sweeping teams and supported by mechanical highway sweepers which maintain scheduled routes within the city centre and across the City. Each of these district teams is managed by a Local Area Manager who acts as the primary point of contact for local communities and ward councillors. Similar arrangements exist within the city centre and operate on a full seven day a week basis.

Cleansing Services are also responsible for the inspection and removal of abandoned vehicles within Leicester, provides the collection service for all general and recycling waste for Leicester City Council buildings and schools and will remove and provide security advice when dealing with hypodermic needle collections.

The service also works closely with our festivals and events team with key priorities in ensuring cleansing standards are maintained before, during and after each public event. Examples of this include:-

Riverside Festival
Belgrave Mela
Caribbean Carnival
Diwali
Leicester 10k Marathon
Skyride
Castle Classic
Community Fete's
Christmas light switch on

The service also has a number of specialist functions:-

- Graffiti Team: is responsible for removing graffiti from all types of surfaces across the City, including private land with the agreement of the owner. They also remove flyposting and clean up after road traffic accidents and spillages on the highway.
- Housing Caretakers are cleansing staff who work under the instruction of Housing Management to deal with waste & cleansing issues in and around all housing estates in particular communal properties.
- Litter bin maintenance team who are responsible for installing and maintaining 1800 litter bins across the city.
- Utility Team: who deal with instances of fly tipping, alleyway clearances, spillages and clearance of waste/litter from unauthorised traveller sites etc.
- 24 hour call out service: is available to deal with emergency clean-up operations for road traffic accidents, diesel spillage, SHARPS removal etc.
- Public conveniences: responsible for cleaning in the city with a mobile public convenience Cleansing Team cleaning all unattended public conveniences across the City on a 7 days per week basis.

Key Priorities include:-

To continue to provide quality services and to ensure the highest possible standards of street cleanliness within the resources available.

Continued cleansing Improvements within toilet facilities in the City.

Review the graffiti team and introduce new operational methods including integrated pump vehicles to improve efficiency and flexibility.

Introduce an in-house street washing service.

(d) Regulatory Services and Community Safety

Deputy City Mayor: Cllr Piara Singh Clair

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Kirk Master

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Dempster

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Connelly

**Head of Regulatory Service: Roman Leszczyszyn Tel: (0116)
454 3191**

Pest Control/Dog Wardens (Cllr Kirk Master)

Pest Control Officers work to eradicate and exclude a variety of common pests in homes and businesses throughout Leicester. These include rats, mice, bed bugs, cockroaches, fleas and wasps. The treatment of rats at domestic premises is free but all other pest treatments are chargeable except for mice treatments in Pest Action Zones. These are areas within more deprived wards which have high rates of mice infestation and where residents are on low incomes and so cannot easily afford to pay pest control charges. The Dog Warden Service deals with stray and dangerous dogs and dog nuisance such as barking and fouling on premises.

Private Sector Housing Team (Cllr Andy Connelly)

This team aims to ensure that private rented properties in the City are suitable for occupation. The team investigates complaints and inspects private rented properties for disrepair and freedom from unacceptable hazards and ensure standards in houses in multiple occupation and hostels are being met. Assessment of living accommodation for immigration purposes is also carried out as support to sponsors.

The team also investigates issues around filthy and verminous premises and faulty drainage, dangerous trees on private land and high hedges obstructing light. They also work with Pest Control to investigate various public health pests.

The Building Regulation Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

This team seeks to ensure that buildings in the City comply with statutory standards for quality, safety and sustainability by considering applications requiring building regulation approval.

Building Safety and Protection Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

This team seeks to protect the public from dangerous structures and demolitions and ensures that vacant and derelict properties are secured from unauthorised access.

Licensing Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

The Licensing Team works in several key areas including taxis, alcohol and entertainment, gambling, sexual entertainment and on street activity such as street trading, distribution of flyers and charitable collections. A vehicle testing station

carries out safety checks on all taxis and provides MOT's for the public. The overall role of the service is to make pre- licensing checks on suitability and ensure licensing requirements are complied with.

Food Safety Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

The Food Team are responsible for monitoring food hygiene standards in Leicester food businesses and the safety and nature of food products . There are around 3,000 food establishments in the City.

Public Safety Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

The Public Safety Team work to protect those working, living or visiting Leicester from incidents that could cause death, injury or economic damage. The Team monitors safety arrangements in sports stadia and public events, working places and explosives/fireworks storage. The team is also responsible for monitoring individuals conducting invasive treatments such as tattooing and compliance with smoke free requirements.

Trading Standards Team (Cllr Piara Singh Clair)

The Trading Standards Team work to ensure that local citizens and businesses are not harmed by fraudulent and reckless trading practices. The remit of the team spans the full range of goods and services from food to cars to home maintenance-. The team supports an intelligence and financial recovery function.

Head of Community Safety/Community Safety Partnership Manager: Daxa Pancholi Tel: 0116 4540203

Prevent & Community Cohesion – Cllr Kirk Master

- a) Under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, local authorities have a duty to “have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”, known as the Prevent duty. This means safeguarding people and communities from terrorism, and stopping people becoming terrorists.
- b) The Prevent strategy is one of four elements of the government’s counter-terrorism strategy, ‘Contest’ (alongside Pursue, Protect and Prepare). It involves:
 - Responding to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism;
 - Responding to extremism and the threat we face from those who promote extremist views;
 - Providing practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism;

- Working with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities and health) where there are risks of radicalisation;
 - Covering all forms of terrorism, including far-right extremism and some aspects of non-violence extremism.
- c) Leicester City has been identified as one of 30 national “priority areas” for Prevent work. These areas are considered to be at greatest risk from terrorism and receive Home Office funding for a local coordinator. A multi-agency Prevent Delivery Plan, based on the risks and threats of people becoming involved in (or supporting) violent extremism in the LLR area has been established.
- d) Leicester City Council is keen to be seen as a pioneer of good practice and has implemented various internal and external measures in order to fulfil its Prevent duty, as a result the current priorities of Leicester City Council’s Prevent Action Plan are:
- Exploring ways of monitoring Prevent referrals made from within LCC;
 - CTLP – obtaining ‘soft intelligence’ from frontline staff;
 - Establishing a pool of Prevent ‘champions’ to deliver internal training on a rota basis;
 - Ensuring that LCC does not provide a platform for extremists (e.g. through room bookings, public computer facilities, procurement or ward funding);
 - Establishing links and engaging with maintained schools;
 - Understanding out-of-school settings supporting children.

Domestic & Sexual Violence – Cllr Vi Dempster

- a) Sexual and domestic violence are prevalent issues within Leicester. They have a wide reaching impact on Leicester residents and public services. The government strategy on domestic violence and sexual violence is called the Violence against Women and Girls Strategy and this was last updated in March 2016 (it includes action for men and boys affected
- b) The City Council currently manages four main service contracts for sexual and domestic violence, one on behalf of a joint commissioning and assurance board comprising city council, Leicestershire county council, Rutland county council and the police and crime commissioner.
- c) The Leicester City Council, sexual and domestic violence team within Community Safety have undertaken a needs assessment for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland; the outcome of this work will inform the DSV strategy.
- d) The Safer Leicester Partnership has statutory responsibility for domestic homicide reviews, as a result the DSV Team is responsible for carrying out the operational work related to carrying out DHRs.

Community Safety (Crime & ASB) – Cllr Piara Singh Clair
Safer Leicester Partnership – Cllr Piara Singh Clair

- a) Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act puts a Duty on Local Authorities to ensure that it considers Crime and Disorder as it delivers all of its functions. It is the role of the Community Safety Service in particular CrASBU to ensure this happens appropriately and consistently across Leicester City Council and wider, within the local authority area.
- b) CrASBU work with partners by identifying actions to reduce medium to high risk crime and anti-social behaviour issues which have come into the Team. The team represent the wider service/council on key issues and police initiatives such as knife crime and street lifestyle concerns with a view to identifying and putting in place proactive solutions. Furthermore the team take the lead on issues such as begging and establishment of PSPOs. Where low risk and single based issues are raised with the team, these are passed onto other services (both internal and external) and/ or referred back to residents to self-manage where possible.
- c) The service also supports the Safer Leicester Partnership, the Community Safety Partnership in Leicester.

Standards and Development

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Kirk Master
Deputy City Mayor: Cllr Adam Clarke
Deputy City Mayor: Cllr Piara Singh Clair

Head of Standards and Development: Bob Mullins Tel: 0116 4544921

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Kirk Master:

City Warden Service

The City Wardens help to keep the city clean using education and enforcement to secure improvements in the local environment. They tackle issues such as accumulations of rubbish on private land, littering, fly posting, graffiti, dog fouling, bins left on the street, small scale fly tipping, non-licensed skips, scaffolds and hoardings as well as patrolling their ward and providing a reassuringly friendly face to the public and point of contact to council services .

Enviro-Crime Team

This team seeks to reduce environmental crime by principally tackling persistent fly tippers and those involved in trade waste.

CCTV

This team looks after the City's CCTV service which provides community safety reassurance.

Noise Control Team

The Noise Control Team provide a call out service up until 2 am on four nights each week to deal with disturbance from noise, as well providing advice on licensing and planning applications.

Pollution Control Team

The Pollution Control Team are responsible for monitoring and coordinating action on controlling emissions from industrial processes, petroleum licensing and dealing with contaminated land.

Deputy City Mayor Cllr Adam Clarke:

Allotments

The management of all Council owned allotments in Leicester, through both direct let provision and also partnership management in conjunction with the Leicester Allotment and Gardeners Council (LAGC).

Deputy City Mayor Cllr Piara Singh Clair:

Landscape Development

Management of landscape improvements in Leicester's parks and open spaces, utilizing capital funding, grant awards, and s106 developer contributions.

Priorities

Key Priorities in Regulatory, Community Safety and Standards and Development Services include:-

- To ensure an effective and joined up corporate approach to complex high risk Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) cases in the City.
- To ensure statutorily compliant and effective public protection arrangements in food safety and standards, and particularly in imported foods.
- Plan and commission specialist domestic and sexual abuse services.
- Supporting projects and initiatives to reduce crime and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- To identify and improve substandard rented accommodation particularly used by vulnerable people, including exploring the development of a new local standard, working with tenants and landlords to develop a robust and relevant measure of quality for homes in Leicester .

- To continue to introduce enforcement campaigns to address issues like dog fouling, littering and spitting.
- To tackle/protect local consumers from fraudulent business.
- To support public health initiatives by tackling illicit tobacco supply.
- To ensure spectator safety at Leicester's sports grounds and festivals.
- Extend the City's No Cold Call Zones where residents request and support this.
- To supporting start-up businesses to comply with relevant regulations.
- Enhance the taxi driver knowledge test.
- Increase access to more applications via channel shift.
- Support measures to help tackle Child Sexual Exploitation where relevant to the licensing service.
- Explore new measures to tackle street drinking.
- Creation of a new public open space at St Mary's former allotments
- Creation of a new public open space at Franklin Fields
- Replacement of the iconic Dalben Tower slide at Bede Park
- Completion of the Allotment Strategy Infrastructure Improvements Phase II project
- Maintain the level of allotment take-up across the city
- Bring about the improvement of landscape facilities through the use of developer contributions
- Implement the new littering from vehicles regulations
- Further develop both the business and domestic duty of care programme of visits, including education, and provide analysis
- Bring about a further reduction in the incidences of fly-tipping
- The purchase, introduction, and management of corporate body worn video for vulnerable front-line services
- Implementation of the CCTV improvement project
- Undertake the move from the Ian Marlow Centre to the corporate Data Centre for the operational CCTV team
- Introduction of a single Smoke Control Order for the City of Leicester
- Ensure response times for initial complaints and calls from existing customers to the Noise and Pollution Monitoring service are met for over 90% of the time
- Ensure that customer Satisfaction with the Noise and Pollution Monitoring Service remains over 90%
- Ensure inspections undertaken under the Environmental Permitting and Petroleum Consolidation Regulations are in line with the premises risk rating
- To continue the monitoring of large-scale festival and events, including attendance at meetings and monitoring of events on the day
- Introduction of a Regulatory Compliance Officer apprenticeship programme
- Undertake consultation for a bins on streets PSPO, implementing as required
- Continue to target the top 10 streets for fly-tipping and side waste
- Update the abandoned shopping trolley policy

Finance Division

Director: Alison Greenhill

Tel: 454 4001

(a) Web Team

City Mayor: Sir Peter Soulsby

City Lead: Carl Skidmore

Tel: 454 1166

Websites

The web team is responsible for the development and support of the Council's primary externally facing website leicester.gov.uk as well as other key websites. This is in conjunction with the Digital Media Team who manage and quality assurance content on Leicester.gov.uk and services who manage more specific websites eg Visit Leicester, Story of Leicester.

Key Priorities for the Web Team include:-

- Improving core Website usability and accessibility.
- New improved framework for website commissions to streamline procurement process and improve site standards.
- Improve the development of e-forms as we pursue the digital channel shift agenda to improve the usability of forms and transaction rates.
- Monitor and manage the security of Web services against a backdrop of increasing malicious cyber-security activity.

(b) Revenues and Customer Support

Assistant Mayor: Councillor Kirk Master

Head of Service: Caroline Jackson Tel: 454 2501

The Revenues and Customer Support Service is responsible for the billing and collection of Council Tax for approximately 134,000 households in the City and for the billing and collection of Business Rates. It is also responsible for the assessment and payment of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction, the detection and prevention of benefit fraud and the management of the corporate fraud team.

The service is located in York House, Granby Street and maintains a telephone enquiry line for Customer contact including waste management, parking, electoral registration, Council Tax, business rates and Housing Benefits and Council Tax Reduction to name but a few. Face to face enquiries are dealt with by the Customer Service Centre at the contact centre within York House. The

service manages the Advice contract for the City which has recently been tendered following a detailed review.

Key priorities include:-

- Maximise the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates to protect Council finances.
- Support people to claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction.
- Maximise the take up of Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction and various Council Tax and business rates discounts and exemptions.
- Support struggling households to pay council bills and shortfalls in rent through the effective management of discretionary funds.
- Minimise the opportunity for fraud and detect occurrences.
- Operate a localised Council Tax Reduction scheme and review it in line with funding constraints.
- Oversee the Welfare Law Advice contract for the City ensuring need of the city is appropriately targeted and met with the restraints of the funding portfolio.
- Operate and manage Community Support and the Crisis Fund (previously held by the Department for Works and Pensions) with a prescribed level of funding and review it in line with funding constraints.
- Support corporate objectives to address Child and Family Poverty.
- Work with the Department for Work and Pensions and individuals as Universal Credit is introduced, gradually replacing Housing Benefit.

(c) Customer Services

Customer Services includes the Granby Street Customer Service Centre (CSC) and the Council's telephone call centre, which also manages online and email contact. As far as possible Customer Services aim to resolve enquiries at the first point of contact i.e. without the customer needing to make further contact with the Council. The service handles approximately 70,000 calls per month, 9,000 face to face enquiries and 3500 emails/eforms.

Key Priorities include:-

- Implementing the Digital Transformation Strategy across the Council including improvements to the on-line customer experience.
- Achieving efficiencies through service improvement.

Delivery, Communications and Political Governance Division

(a) Communications and City Mayor

Director: Miranda Cannon

Tel: 454 0102

Team Manager: Rebecca Oakley

Tel: 454 4161

The Communications and Marketing Team provides strategic advice, guidance and support to all areas of the Council. It supports major Council initiatives through the development and delivery of corporate communication and marketing strategies. It is also responsible for developing and overseeing internal communications, including InterFace and the Face all- staff email. The team also has responsibility for providing advice and support to public consultation and engagement exercises including oversight and management of the Council's on-line consultation platform. The design, print, photography and media sales and media buying functions also sit within this team, as does the Community Languages Service which provides translation and interpretation services.

(b) Digital Media

City Mayor

Director: Miranda Cannon

Tel: 454 0102

Team Manager: David Doherty

Tel: 454 4155

The Digital Media Team is responsible for the development, governance and promotion of the Council's external websites and social media platforms.

The key priorities across communications, marketing and digital media are:-

- To support efforts to achieve savings or increase our revenues
- Support local democracy and community engagement
- Support the City Mayor and Executive in their political leadership role
- Promote Leicester and our role in the city
- Drive more usage of our website and online services
- Make our council business easier to understand
- Help protect the reputation of our organisation
- Encourage behaviour change amongst residents and service users
- Ensure our staff feel well informed and included

(c) Equalities Team

Assistant City Mayor: Cllr Manjula Sood

Director: Miranda Cannon

Tel: 454 0102

Team Manager: Hannah Watkins Tel: 454 5811

The Equalities Team supports the Council in meeting its statutory equality duties and in delivering its equalities strategy. The team supports divisions and services to look at equality implications and impacts, and how negative impacts may be mitigated against. Specifically, the team provides a lot of support in relation to the equality impacts of budget proposals and spending reviews. In addition, working closely with HR they support the employee equality groups within the Council and consider equalities issues related to the Council's workforce as well as administering the Government access to work scheme for disabled staff. The team seeks to actively promote national and international days and events with an equalities focus in order to support continued awareness raising across the full range of protected characteristics. The priorities for the team are articulated in the Corporate Equality Strategy and supporting action plan. A new strategy and action plan were agreed by Full Council in June 2018.

(d) Corporate Voluntary and Community Sector Engagement

Assistant City Mayors: Cllr Manjula Sood and Cllr Mustafa Malik

Director: Miranda Cannon

Tel: 454 0102

VCS Engagement Manager: George Ballentyne

Tel: 454 4146

Within the Division there is a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Engagement Manager post. This role has responsibility for supporting good strategic and day-to-day working relationships between Leicester City Council and the voluntary and community sector and key communities in the City. This includes oversight of the corporate contract for VCS Infrastructure support with Voluntary Action Leicestershire, and management of Crowdfund Leicester crowdfunding platform through which organisations seek to raise funding for projects and can access support including from the VCS Engagement fund. Responsibility for support to the City Mayor's Faith and Community Forum also sits in this area.

5. Financial, Legal and Other Implications

5.1. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Colin Sharpe, Head of Finance, ext. 37 4081

5.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications concerning the recommendations in this report. Project officers are working with Legal Services when legal advice is sought on projects that deliver the priorities that are described.

Kamal Adatia, City Barrister & Head of Standards, ext. 37 1401

5.3 Equality implications

The Public Sector Equality Duty is a duty on public bodies and others carrying out public functions. It ensures that public bodies consider the needs of all individuals in their day to day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees.

The Equality Duty supports good decision-making – it encourages public bodies to understand how different people will be affected by their activities so that policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs.

By understanding the effect of their activities on different people, and how inclusive public services can support and open up people's opportunities, public bodies are better placed to deliver policies and services that are efficient and effective.

This portfolio of services serves people from all protected characteristics across the City as a whole. The services within this portfolio contribute directly to a number of equality outcomes as set out in the Equality and Human Rights Commission's equality measurement framework:-

- improved standard of living by tackling/addressing issues that affect people's environmental, built environment and socio-economic circumstances;
- promotion of participation, influence and voice through provision for community activities that individuals can engage in;
- promotion of identity, expression and self-respect through provision of community activities and resources for individual use which support these outcomes;

- promotion of individual, family and social life through provision of activities which support these outcomes; and
- improved physical security by tackling/addressing issues that negatively affect individual safety.

If these services were not provided by the Council/local government/ government, there would be adverse impacts preventing the achievement of the above equality outcomes, as well as other related equality outcomes: life, health, productive and valued activities (work), and education and learning. The portfolio is truly far reaching in its impact on supporting and promoting community and personal resiliency.

Surinder Singh, Equalities Officer Ext. 37 4148

6. Background Papers - Local Government Act 1972

6.1 No specific papers.

7. Consultations

7.1 Contributions provided by the Directors/ Heads of Service named in this report.

8. Report Authors

John Leach, Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services
Alison Greenhill, Director of Finance
Miranda Cannon, Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance