

Report to: People Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 7 March 2019

By: Chief Executive

Title: Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources

Purpose: To review scrutiny's input into the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources process during 2018/19 for the financial year 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Review its input into the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources process; and
 - 2) Identify any lessons for improvement of the process in future;
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1 Background

1.1 Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR - i.e. aligning the Council's budget setting process with service delivery plans) has established an effective and transparent business planning process.

1.2 Scrutiny committees actively engage in the process, firstly to allow them to bring the experience they have gained through their work to bear and, secondly, to help inform their future work programmes.

2 Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources and scrutiny in East Sussex

2.1 In September/October 2018 each scrutiny committee considered extracts from the *State of the County* report, and current Portfolio Plans. At the November scrutiny committee meetings the committees considered the Council's proposed Core Offer, Medium Term Financial Plan and savings proposals contained in the October Cabinet report. Requests for further information or reports were made to help the scrutiny committee gain a full understanding of the context for budget and service planning.

2.2 The scrutiny committees established scrutiny boards to provide a more detailed input into the RPPR process. These met in December 2018 to consider the draft 2019/20 Portfolio Plans and the impact of proposed savings. The boards:

- considered any amendments to the Portfolio Plans and how priorities were reflected against the proposed key areas of budget spend for the coming year;
- assessed the potential impact of proposed savings on services provided to East Sussex County Council customers.
- made comments and recommendations to Cabinet on the budget proposals for 2019/20.

2.3 Appendix 1 summarises the comments made by the People Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board to Cabinet.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The committee is recommended to review its input into the RPPR process and establish whether there are lessons for improvement for the future.

BECKY SHAW
Chief Executive

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LOCAL MEMBERS

All.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

NONE