

# Corporate Policy Committee

## Agenda

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**Date:** Thursday, 3rd October, 2024  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and in the report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision-making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings are uploaded to the Council's website.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

6. **Performance Report - Cheshire East Plan, Quarter 1 2024/25 (Pages 3 - 30)**

To provide the Committee with an oversight of organisational performance against the priorities and vision set out within the Council's Corporate Plan 2021-25.

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**OPEN**

**Corporate Policy Committee**

**3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**

**Performance Report – Cheshire East Plan, Quarter 1 2024/25**

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**Report of: Karen Wheeler – Interim Director of Policy and Change**

**Report Reference No: CP/33/24-25**

**Ward(s) Affected: All**

**Purpose of Report**

- 1 To provide the Committee with an oversight of organisational performance against the priorities and vision set out within the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25.
- 2 This report covers Quarter 1 2024/25 of the plan, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
- 3 This report supports the responsibility of the Corporate Policy Committee to have a co-ordinating role across all other committees and to exercise corporate oversight of outcomes, performance, budget monitoring and risk management.
- 4 The committee can comment on performance and direction of travel and consider any amendments in performance reporting, and/or additional data and intelligence that should be included within performance management reporting.
- 5 Appendix 1 provides the detail of performance and progress against the Cheshire East Plan priorities and Appendix 2 provides a summary of performance against a number of organisational health indicators.
- 6 The Corporate Plan 2021-25 has three key themes - Open, Fair and Green. Although the Cheshire East Plan has been refreshed for 2024/25 to better reflect the financial context, development of a new Plan for 2025 onwards is now essential to provide our residents, partners and the organisation with clarity of purpose and strategic direction aligned to a new operating model and MTFs.

**Executive Summary**

- 7 This report gives an update on delivery and performance against the priorities in the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25 for Quarter 1 (April 2024 to June 2024).
- 8 Appendix 1 of the report shows that there are 66 priority actions included within the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25 and progress can be summarised as follows:

Green – on track	48
Amber – mainly on track with some minor issues	12
Red – off track with major issues	2
To be added	2
Not yet due	2

- 9 Appendix 2 provides a summary of key organisational health performance indicators.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Corporate Policy Committee is recommended to:

- 1. Note and comment on progress and performance against delivery of the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25 in Quarter 1 2024/25.

**Background**

- 10 The Cheshire East Plan 2024/25 outlines three aims and 20 priorities for the Council aligned with the vision of being an “Open, Fairer and Greener Cheshire East”.

Vision		
An open, fairer, greener Cheshire East		
Aims		
Aim 1 - An open and enabling organisation	Aim 2 - A council which empowers and cares about people	Aim 3 - A thriving and sustainable place
We will provide strong community leadership and work transparently with our residents, businesses and partners to deliver our ambition in Cheshire East.	We aim to reduce inequalities, promote fairness and opportunity for all and support our most vulnerable residents.	We will lead our communities to protect and enhance our environment, tackle the climate emergency and drive sustainable development.
Priorities		
P1.1) Ensure that there is transparency in all aspects of council decision making P1.2) Listen, learn and respond to our residents, promoting opportunities for a two-way conversation P1.3) Support a sustainable financial future for the council, through service development, improvement and transformation P1.4) Look at opportunities to bring more income into the borough P1.5) Support and develop our workforce to be confident, motivated, innovative, resilient and empowered P1.6) Promote and develop the services of the council through regular communication and engagement with all residents	P2.1) Work together with residents and partners to support people and communities to be strong and resilient P2.2) Reduce health inequalities across the borough P2.3) Protect and support our communities and safeguard children, adults at risk and families from abuse, neglect and exploitation P2.4) Be the best Corporate Parents to our children in care P2.5) Support all children to have the best start in life P2.6) Increase opportunities for all children and young adults with additional needs P2.7) Ensure all children have a high quality, enjoyable education that enables them to achieve their full potential P2.8) Reduce the reliance on long term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia services	P3.1) A great place for people to live, work and visit P3.2) Welcoming, safe and clean neighbourhoods P3.3) Reduce impact on the environment P3.4) A transport network that is safe and promotes active travel P3.5) Thriving urban and rural economies with opportunities for all P3.6) Be a carbon neutral council by 2027

- 11 This report reviews progress with delivery and performance against the priorities and actions in the Cheshire East Plan and focuses upon a “One Council” approach to performance management. This includes a balance of quantitative and qualitative data.
- 12 Appendix 1 of the report shows that there are 66 priority actions included within the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25 and progress can be summarised as follows:

Green – on track	48
Amber – mainly on track with some minor issues	12
Red – off track with major issues	2
To be added	2
Not yet due	2

- 13 The actions which are amber are set out below with an explanation and mitigating actions to be taken:

Priority Action	What will we do	Lead Officer	Q1 update
A1.3.3	Deliver the savings set out in MTFS 2024-28 proposals within the agreed timescales to contribute to a balanced the budget and build sustainable reserves	Head of Finance	As part of the Strategic Finance Management Board (SFMB), the S151 Officer has established weekly meetings with Directorates forecasting overspends of 5% or more. The meetings hear and scrutinise the development and delivery of mitigating actions and monitor progress with regards to reducing spend pressures and bringing forecasts back into line with budget.
A2.3.1	Continue to embed our Restorative practice model	Principal Social Worker (Children)	Training has been provided to all staff in relation to Restorative Practice. Further support will be offered to Children's Social Care from Stockport, who are our Sector Led Improvement Partner (SLIP) under DfE support. They will provide additional refresh Restorative training to new leaders
A2.3.3	Update the Cheshire East Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy	Head of Service Early Help and Prevention	Workshop held to begin this work. New interim DCS will act as strategic lead for the DA and SV board.
A2.4.1	Attract more foster carers to support Cheshire East children through the	Head of Provider Services	Cheshire East are active members of the Foster4 Board and have started to attend meetings. Further update on impact in Q2.

<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>What will we do</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Q1 update</b>
	Foster4 collaboration		
A2.4.2	Prioritise care experienced adults as part of our recovery work to improve employment and training opportunities.	Head of Service: Cared for Children and Care Leavers	Care Leavers are being supported into employment education and training from dedicated workers in the Care Leavers Service. Improvement in KPI's and in support to CL's has been evidenced.
A2.4.3	Deliver the priorities of the Cared for children and care leavers strategy 2022-26	Head of Cared for Children and Care Leavers	The Cared for and Care Leavers Strategy is being updated as part of the Children's Service Improvement Plan. This is on track to be updated by November 2024
A2.5.1	Continue to develop services and support offered through Family Hub model and promote the Parenting	Head of Early Years	The Family hub outreach program and children's centre remodelling consultation was paused due to the pre-election period guidelines. New date set for quarter 2 and Children & Families Committee in November 2024 for a decision. The core offer from our 6 family hubs continues to be delivered, the family hub transformation action plan is progressing on track for completion at the end of September 2024 in line with the end of the program.
A2.6.1	Establish and deliver against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) management plan	Strategic lead for SEND and inclusion	Work is ongoing which is having a positive impact and has reduced the DSG deficit. It is forecast to reduce further.
A3.1.1	Develop and begin consultation upon 'New style' Local Plan Strategy	Head of Planning	Issues and Options completed on new Local Plan as planned. However, uncertainty over timeframes remain due to lack of clarity over legislation and planning reforms from new Government.
A3.1.2	Deliver the Planning Service Improvement Plan (SIP)	Head of Planning	Good progress now being made on key areas of the SIP. Restructure now completed and vacancies ready to be filled; communication, customer and performance improvements are on track; and extensive work on s106 audit recommendations with other services continues. IT system implementation has been delayed by supplier to mid-October for go live hence overall rating.

Priority Action	What will we do	Lead Officer	Q1 update
A3.2.3	Update the Safer Cheshire East Partnership Plan	Locality Manager, Community Safety	<p>The 2024-25 Partnership Plan is currently available on the Safer Cheshire East website and is accompanied by the 2023-24 Safer Cheshire East Partnership Annual Report. The Report provides full details of all Community Safety activity and work programmes delivered against the funding provide through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner together with other Community Safety projects supported by partners. The Annual Report was presented to Scrutiny Committee on 16 September 2024. The Partnership Plan is designed to account for Community Safety Priorities for a period of 3 years though is reviewed annually. Data analysis and intelligence is to be provided by both the Police and the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service at the next meeting of SCEP on 8 October when all current priorities will be assessed to ensure work programmes align to any new emerging risks and threats. Amendments to the Partnership Plan will be undertaken to account for any new areas of work identified.</p>
A3.6.1	Deliver actions to achieve the objectives of the Carbon Neutral Action Plan 2027 (updated timescale)	Head of Environmental Services	<p>Progress in Q1 good including carbon reduction projects. 11 electric vans under construction with delivery in August, decarbonisation of buildings continues with air source heat pumps and building mounted PV / electric supply upgrades under way. Carbon offset with 15ha trees of natural offset planted, Council's First solar farm Leighton Grange nearing completion. Capital Review is required to continue work this year on 2nd solar farm and further fleet decarbonisation putting 2027 target at risk in future quarters.</p>

14 The actions which are red and not meeting target are:

Priority Action	What will we do	Lead Officer	Q1 update
A1.1.4	A clear and transparent budget setting process, where opportunities to inform and influence decision-making are clearly understood by stakeholders	Head of Finance	<p>The S151 Officer with CLT has established a Strategic Finance Management Board (SFMB), made up of CLT and supporting officers. A number of groups have been set up to report to SFMB; one of these is the Finance Management Group (FMG) led by the Head of Finance. A core task of FMG is to drive the MTFs review and enable engagement and consultation with stakeholders. A joined-up timeline has been established, reflecting the significance of and inter-relationships between in-year financial reporting; development of the MTFs; and implementation of the Transformation Programme. Critical to the success of development of the MTFs and budget setting process is the timely generation of savings/ budget change proposals, and the determination of the deliverable budgetary effects of those proposals, in respective financial years, from 2025/26-29. Whilst most of these activities will take place in Q2, it is important to note now that the generation of ideas - be that from interpretation of the Transformation Programme or otherwise - is taking longer than anticipated in the timeline (as reflected in the RAG status). As reported to 12 September Finance Sub-Committee, the indicative timeline for budget consultation has slipped a little. Via SFMB, senior management have been asked to make all efforts to populate the 'MTFS Tracker' working document by 20 September, to enable a 'stock-take' comprehensive view of the emerging picture for 2025/26, in particular. This will inform CLT/ SFMB of the further actions required to complete draft budget/ MTFs preparations and plan for the appropriate types of consultation and stakeholder engagement.</p>



Priority Action	What will we do	Lead Officer	Q1 update
A2.7.1	Deliver the Kingsbourne Academy primary school in Nantwich	Head of Education	This scheme has been further delayed due to ongoing legal issues.

- 15 The full quarter 1 organisational health performance report is at Appendix 2. This gives further details on progress made against delivery of the Cheshire East Plan during quarter 1 of the 2024/25 municipal year.
- 16 There are 2,829 FTE staff in Cheshire East Council as at quarter 1, a reduction in the level reported in quarter 4 (2,869). The vacancy rate across the Council has increased from 12.16% in Q4 to 13.05% in Q1 2024/25.
- 17 The greatest numbers of vacancies are reported in Corporate (15.59%) and Place (14.21%) directorates.
- 18 There has also been an increase in the levels of staff turnover, from 3.2% in Q4, to 4.10% in Q1 2024/25. With the Corporate directorate reporting a rate of 6.10% for the period.
- 19 There has been a reduction in the number of agency staff from 237 in Q4, to 232 in Q1 2024/25.
- 20 There has been an increase in the variance between the forecast outturn and total net budget, increasing from 2.4% in Q4 to 6.80% in Q1 2024/25. Full details of finance reporting period 1 is a separate item on the committee's agenda.
- 21 Service committees receive performance information on a regular basis through their subject matter expert officers, specific to the subject of the committee. This performance report offers an oversight of progress against the Cheshire East (Corporate) Plan 2024/25 and should complement the more detailed performance and service specific dashboards that are considered at service committees.

### Consultation and Engagement

- 22 Consultation was undertaken in developing the Cheshire East Plan and priority actions within it.

### Reasons for Recommendations

- 23 The Corporate Policy Committee is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising performance against the strategic aims and objectives in the Cheshire East Plan 2024/25.

- 24 The performance management framework continues to be developed and seeks to provide a robust, customer focussed view of performance. Member input into this development is valued to ensure that performance management reports are of use.
- 25 Performance management is a tool to allow oversight of the Council's key activities and to enable transparency and understanding around where the Council is performing well, and what are the areas of challenge and improvement.

**Other Options Considered**

- 26 Not applicable.

**Implications and Comments**

*Monitoring Officer/Legal*

- 27 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

*Section 151 Officer/Finance*

- 28 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from performance matters will be covered in other reports to respective service committees, including separate financial reporting in-year, as well as in further development and reporting of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, as required.

*Policy*

- 29 This report demonstrates progress against all priorities within the Cheshire East Corporate Plan 2021-25.

<p><b>An open and enabling organisation.</b></p>	<p><b>A council which empowers and cares about people.</b></p>	<p><b>A thriving and sustainable place.</b></p>
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*Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*

- 30 The range of council activities covered in the Corporate Plan aim to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty and the obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

*Human Resources*

- 31 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

*Risk Management*

32 Performance and risk are intrinsically linked. Where risks are identified, performance data can evidence the likelihood of the risk and can also show if risks materialise. The performance report identifies areas where performance is strong and areas for development and improvement. This supports the risk management process by providing the opportunity to review progress and identify areas for improvement and any necessary mitigating actions.

*Rural Communities*

33 The Corporate Plan aims to support greater inclusion for rural communities. In 2022/23 a Rural Action Plan was approved by the Economy and Growth committee, which includes priorities around digital connectivity, access, housing, visitor economy and support for rural based businesses.

*Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)*

34 Performance management of the priorities relating to children and young people and cared for children ensure that there is a focus on children receiving the best start in life and that we deliver on our commitments to children and young people in Cheshire East.

*Public Health*

35 This report supports our Public Health priorities using the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Tartan Rug to ensure that we work with partners to address issues of poor housing, poverty, employment and education across urban and rural communities.

*Climate Change*

36 Performance against the Corporate Plan contributes to overall achievement of the net zero targets for the council and for the borough.

<b>Access to Information</b>	
Contact Officer:	Karen Wheeler – Interim Director of Policy and Change <a href="mailto:karen.wheeler@cheshireeast.gov.uk">karen.wheeler@cheshireeast.gov.uk</a>
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – The Cheshire East Plan Progress and Performance Report Q1  Appendix 2 – Organisational Health Performance Report Q1
Background Papers:	<a href="#">Cheshire East Plan 2024/25</a>  <a href="#">Performance Report – Q4 2023/24</a>

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# Cheshire East plan 2024-25



## Vision

**An open, fairer, greener Cheshire East**

## Aims

### Aim 1 - An open and enabling organisation

### Aim 2 - A council which empowers and cares about people

### Aim 3 - A thriving and sustainable place

We will provide strong community leadership and work transparently with our residents, businesses and partners to deliver our ambition in Cheshire East.

We aim to reduce inequalities, promote fairness and opportunity for all and support our most vulnerable residents.

We will lead our communities to protect and enhance our environment, tackle the climate emergency and drive sustainable development.

## Priorities

- P1.1) Ensure that there is transparency in all aspects of council decision making
- P1.2) Listen, learn and respond to our residents, promoting opportunities for a two-way conversation
- P1.3) Support a sustainable financial future for the council, through service development, improvement and transformation
- P1.4) Look at opportunities to bring more income into the borough
- P1.5) Support and develop our workforce to be confident, motivated, innovative, resilient and empowered
- P1.6) Promote and develop the services of the council through regular communication and engagement with all residents

- P2.1) Work together with residents and partners to support people and communities to be strong and resilient
- P2.2) Reduce health inequalities across the borough
- P2.3) Protect and support our communities and safeguard children, adults at risk and families from abuse, neglect and exploitation
- P2.4) Be the best Corporate Parents to our children in care
- P2.5) Support all children to have the best start in life
- P2.6) Increase opportunities for all children and young adults with additional needs
- P2.7) Ensure all children have a high quality, enjoyable education that enables them to achieve their full potential
- P2.8) Reduce the reliance on long term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia services

- P3.1) A great place for people to live, work and visit
- P3.2) Welcoming, safe and clean neighbourhoods
- P3.3) Reduce impact on the environment
- P3.4) A transport network that is safe and promotes active travel
- P3.5) Thriving urban and rural economies with opportunities for all
- P3.6) Be a carbon neutral council by 2027

What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25			Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
P1.1	A1.1.1	Introduce a new decision-making framework to streamline the current arrangements and improve quality and clarity of reports.	Head of Democratic Services	CPC	Green	Linked to Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) Action Plan - Consider options to streamline committees, train report authors, emphasise Modern.gov software use – on track for October/ November deadlines
	A1.1.2	Improve understanding of effective scrutiny in a committee system of decision-making	Head of Democratic Services	CPC	Green	Scrutiny training for committee members by December 2024
	A1.1.3	Member training to clarify roles and responsibilities for decision-making within the committee system	Head of Democratic Services	CPC	Green	Training programme for committee members by December 2024
	A1.1.4	A clear and transparent budget setting process, where opportunities to inform and influence decision-making are clearly understood by stakeholders	Head of Finance	CPC	Red	Strategic Finance Management Board drives MTFS review, budget proposals delayed – see covering report
P1.2	A1.2.1	Review and embed consultation and engagement approach across the organisation to put resident and customer voice at the heart of evidence base for decisions, including assessing alternative approaches such as a 'people panel' to embed citizen voice into key decisions and policy development	Head of Communications	CPC	Green	Review approach to communications and engagement including for development of new Cheshire East Plan, starting Q2 – in CPC Action Plan
	A1.2.2	Review equality, diversity and inclusion strategy and EIAs to embed the voices of seldom-heard audiences and those with protected characteristics at the heart of decision-making and service redesign across the organisation.	Head of Business Change	CPC	Green	Update Equality, Diversity, Inclusion strategy with Cheshire East Plan; new EIA template.
	A1.2.3	Review and refresh the aims and priorities in the Customer Experience Strategy as part of a wider review of customer experience and resident engagement.	Head of Customer Services	CPC	Measure not due	Refocus CES review with Transformation programme; develop digital models in Q2 & 3
	A1.2.4	Achieve the Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award	Head of Communities and Integration	E+C	Green	Cheshire East Council gains Gold award. Armed Forces



What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25			Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
						Officer supports veterans with clubs, events, and crisis aid.
P1.3	A1.3.1	Embark on a whole organisation transformation and improvement programme – The primary aim in the short term must be to ensure that the Council is financially stable and delivering support to those who need it most.	Director of Transformation	CPC	Green	Approved transformation plan, children’s services improvement plan and peer challenge action plan mark significant progress
	A1.3.2	Review commissioning approach across all directorates	Head of Integrated Commissioning	A+H/C+F	Green	Commissioning approach is being reviewed and progress is being made
	A1.3.3	Deliver the savings set out in MTFS 2024-28 proposals within the agreed timescales to contribute to a balanced the budget and build sustainable reserves	Head of Finance	CPC	Amber	MTFS 2024-28 approved; financial challenges, low reserves, rising costs, overspend forecast.
	A1.3.4	We will refresh the council’s Digital Strategy and delivery programme. The Digital Strategy identifies forty-seven digital projects and emphasises a digital-by-design approach to offering services to customers.	Head of ICT	CPC	Green	Update CPC on Digital Strategy progress; collaborate on future digital initiatives.
P1.4	A1.4.1	Comprehensive review of each existing alternative service delivery vehicle (ASDV) including review of governance, management, business planning and performance management arrangements.	Director of Environment	FSC	Green	Review complete
P1.5	A1.5.1	Review Workforce Strategy and update for 2025 onwards.	Head of HR	CPC	Green	Workforce Strategy 2025-2028 approach approved; development ongoing, approval expected January 2025.
	A1.5.2	Complete the office moves related WorkplaCE programme, making more efficient use of the council’s office estate and technology to support modern ways of working	Executive Director – Place	CPC, E+G	Green	Office moves are progressing as planned and on schedule.
	A1.5.3	Review and update the Brighter Future culture programme	Head of HR	CPC	Green	Council behaviours refresh approved; ongoing staff engagement for updated culture programme
	A1.5.4	Complete the DMA review of senior capacity and extend DMA across the organisation as part of service re-design	Head of HR	CPC	Green	Senior management restructure (Tier 4+) approved; phase one consultation ends 20th September, final structure



What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25			Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
						to be agreed in October. Phase two will follow.
P1.6	A1.6.1	Review and refresh communications and engagement strategy and resourcing as part of a wider review of customer experience and resident engagement.	Head of Communications	CPC	Green	Develop communications and engagement strategy in line with Cheshire East Plan and customer experience strategy, starting Q2
	A1.6.2	Establish a range of subscriber e-newsletters and digital content to share key updates and council services, support and decisions with a range of stakeholders – to extend reach of messages	Head of Communications	CPC	Green	Develop communications and engagement strategy in line with Cheshire East Plan and customer experience strategy, starting Q2.
	A1.6.3	Review and update the approach, across the organisation, to employee communications and workforce engagement	Head of Communications	CPC	Green	Refresh the internal communications and engagement strategy – all staff sessions held September 2024

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
P2.1	A2.1.1	Support VCFSE to build upon the People Helping People initiative and work collaboratively through 'Growing our communities'.	Head of Communities and Integration	A+H	Green	<p>Volunteer approach: onboarded Community Connectors, developed IT systems, training, branding, partnerships, and home needs systems.</p> <p>Community growth: commissioned CVSCE, Cheshire Community Action, and Cheshire Association of Local Councils.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Market growth: better funding use, impact reporting, long-term provision, stronger relationships.</li> <li>2. Communication channels: joined-up working, better connections, integrated infrastructure, health challenge awareness, collaborative practices.</li> <li>3. Public sector influence: informed JSNAs, visibility, decision-making influence.</li> </ol> <p>Community grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy-saving projects: £147,111 awarded.</li> <li>• Cost of Living Fund: 19,455 users, 599 volunteers, support for older people,</li> </ul>

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25	Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
					community meals, and supermarket
A2.1.2	Complete construction of the Traveller transit site	Head of Housing	E+G	Green	The site is on track for completion by the end of September 2024, pending utility connections.
A2.1.3	Support and contribute to the achievements of the borough's eight care communities and neighbourhood partnerships	Head of Communities and Integration	A+H	Green	<p>Place-based communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Wellbeing events.</li> <li>• IT project with Sandbach library.</li> <li>• NHS Talking therapies in rural areas.</li> <li>• Holmes Chapel Family Hub Stay and Play group.</li> <li>• Knutsford Parkletics programme.</li> <li>• Priority working groups in Sandbach, Middlewich, Alsager, Shavington, Haslington.</li> </ul> <p>Minority groups and communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Afghanistan Scheme: 16 families, 70 individuals.</li> <li>• UK Sponsors: 136 families, 264 individuals.</li> </ul>

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25	Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update	
P2.2	A2.2.1	Focus delivery of targeted activity to reduce alcohol and substance misuse, smoking, domestic abuse and violence and increase healthy eating and physical exercise in areas that experience worse health outcomes.	Director of Public Health	A+H	Green	<p><b>Lifestyle Survey:</b> Insights into lifestyle variations by geography and demographics.</p> <p><b>Substance Misuse:</b> Developing a 5-year strategy to reduce drug and alcohol harm, with extensive partner engagement.</p> <p><b>Smoking Cessation:</b> Pilot financial incentives for pregnant women to quit smoking; Smokefree 2030 ambition.</p> <p><b>Smokefree Programme:</b> Sub-regional system mapping for stop smoking support; local group established for All Together Smokefree.</p> <p><b>Physical Activity/Healthy Eating:</b> Eat Well Move More Partnership's inaugural meeting and ongoing action plan development.</p>
	A2.2.2	Continue to deliver activity to deliver the <a href="#">Cheshire East Harm and Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2023-2025</a>	Director of Public Health	A+H	Green	<p>Suicide Needs Assessment: Nearing completion, analysing trends and risk factors in Cheshire East.</p> <p>Keep Safe and Cope Well Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed for children and families to build resilience.</li> <li>Pilot course delivered to over 60 professionals.</li> </ul>

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25	Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>45+ schools interested; 7 primary schools piloting in 2024-2025.</li> </ul> <p>Domestic Abuse and Suicidality Toolkit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed collaboratively by Public Health, Children and Families, and Adults Social Care.</li> <li>Launched in May 2024 with over 120 attendees.</li> </ul>
A2.2.3	Continue to deliver activity to deliver the <a href="#">Living Well in Crewe plan</a>	Director of Public Health	A+H	Green	<p>Living Well in Crewe Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Old library site cleared for new History Centre.</li> <li>Progress on Towns Fund projects: Youth Zone, Pocket Parks, Valley Brook green corridor.</li> <li>New bus station and car park completed.</li> </ul> <p>Green Spaces for Wellbeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiative in Queens Park by ANSA.</li> <li>Outdoor activities and exercise to improve</li> </ul>

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
						mental and physical wellbeing.
	A2.2.4	Continue to deliver activity to deliver the <a href="#">Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan 2024-2029</a>	Director of Public Health	A+H	Green	Ongoing and in line with delivery plan
P2.3	A2.3.1	Continue to embed our Signs of Safety practice model	Principal Social Worker (Children)	C+F	Amber	Restorative Practice training provided to all staff; Stockport SLIP to offer additional training for new leaders in Children's Social Care.
	A2.3.2	Update the <a href="#">Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan</a>	Head of Adult Safeguarding	A+H	Green	The Safeguarding Board Strategy has already been updated and is on the SAB website
	A2.3.3	Update the <a href="#">Cheshire East Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy</a>	Head of Service Early Help and Prevention	C+F	Amber	The workshop has set the groundwork, but progress is on hold until the new Service Manager starts on 14th October 2024. The new interim DCS, starting on 23rd September, will act as the Strategic Lead for the DA and SV board
P2.4	A2.4.1	Attract more foster carers to support Cheshire East children through the Foster4 collaboration	Head of Provider Services	C+F	Amber	Cheshire East are active members of the Foster4 Board and have started to attend meetings. Further update in Q2
	A2.4.2	Prioritise care experienced adults as part of our recovery work to improve employment and training opportunities.	Head of Service: Cared for Children and Care Leavers	C+F	Amber	Care Leavers are receiving dedicated support for employment, education, and training, leading to improved KPIs and better overall support.
	A2.4.3	Deliver the priorities of the <a href="#">Cared for children and care leavers strategy 2022-26</a>	Head of Cared for Children and Care Leavers	C+F	Amber	The Cared for and Care Leavers Strategy update is on track for November 2024, as part of the Children's Service Improvement Plan.

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
P2.5	A2.5.1	Continue to develop services and support offered through Family Hub model and promote the <a href="#">Parenting Journey</a>	Head of Early Years	C+F	Amber	Family hub program paused; new dates set, transformation on track.
	A2.5.2	Continue work to build Crewe Youth Zone	Director Education, Strong Start and Integration	C+F	Green	Crewe's new Youth Zone named 'The Dome', funded by contributions.
	A2.5.3	Continue to deliver the <a href="#">Emotionally Healthy Children and Young People programme</a>	Director Education, Strong Start and Integration	C+F	Green	Prioritizing children's mental health through networks, alliances, and training initiatives.
P2.6	A2.6.1	Establish and deliver against the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) management plan	Strategic lead for SEND and inclusion	C+F	Amber	Deficit reduced by £10.1M, further £8.4M reduction forecasted quarterly.
	A2.6.2	Capital programme to increase in-borough provision	Head of Education	C+F	Green	Several school expansions completed; more schemes progressing on site.
	A2.6.3	Grow organisational capacity to support transformation of SEND support (MTFS 24)	Strategic lead for SEND and inclusion	C+F	Green	Appointed strategic lead and team to transform SEND support quickly
P2.7	A2.7.1	Deliver the Kingsbourne Academy primary school in Nantwich	Head of Education	C+F	Red	This scheme has been further delayed due to ongoing issues.
	A2.7.2	Process primary and secondary applications efficiently, offering parental choice places where possible.	Head of Education	C+F	Green	High success in school offers: 93% primary, 94% secondary.
P2.8	A2.8.1	Investment in Adult Social Care (MTFS 8)	Director of Adult Social Care	A+H	Green	Growth included in budget for 2024/25 and under review for future years in line with MTFS development and transformation plan
	A2.8.2	Continue to develop and promote the Shared Lives service	Head of Care4CE	A+H	Green	Project work completed, project to evaluate impact to commence
	A2.8.3	Use technology to digitally enable people to support themselves ( <a href="#">Digital Inclusion Plan 2023 – 2026</a> )	Corporate Manager, Health Improvement	A+H	Green	Digital enablement improves health, connectivity, education, access, and savings

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Update
	A2.8.4	Deliver the objectives of the <a href="#">All Age Carers Strategy 2021-25</a>	Head of Integrated Commissioning	A+H	Green	Wellbeing of diverse Cheshire East carers needs whole system approach.



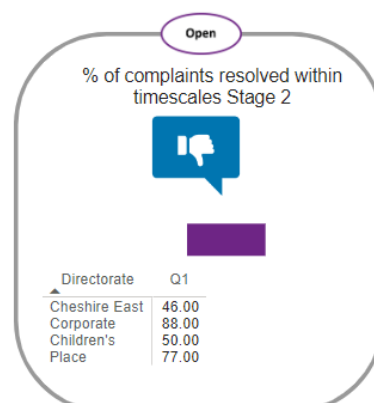
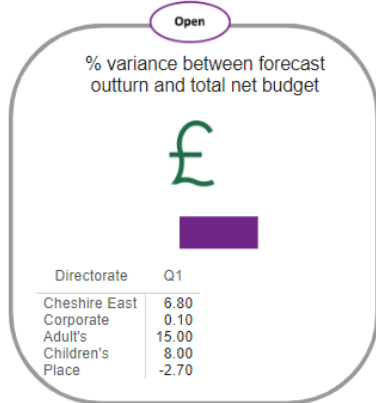
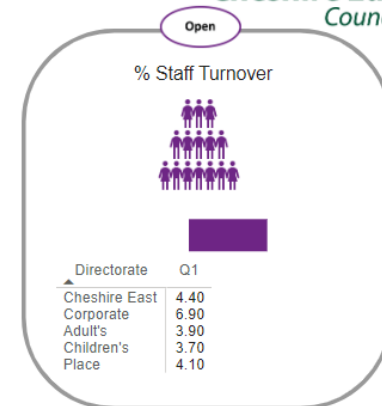
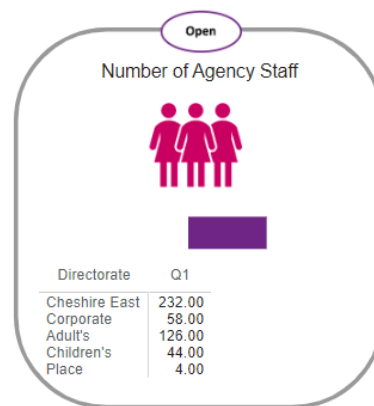
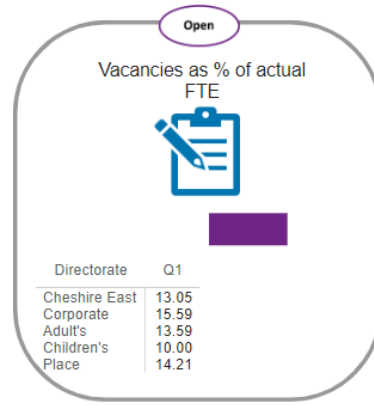
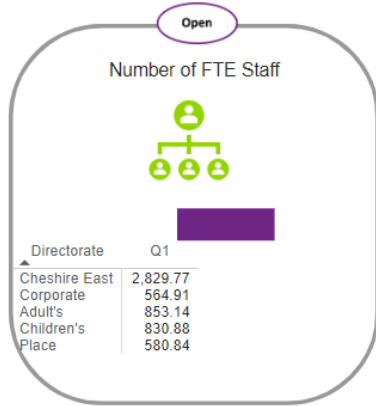
Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Peer review action plan
P3.1	A3.1.1	Develop and begin consultation upon 'New style' Local Plan Strategy	Head of Planning	E+C	Amber	Plan completed, but timeframe uncertain due to legislative and governmental changes.
	A3.1.2	Deliver the Planning Service Improvement Plan	Head of Planning	E+C	Amber	SIP progress good; restructure done, IT delayed, overall rating affected.
	A3.1.3	Deliver cultural development activities, including continued activity towards the Cheshire Archives – a Story Shared project (MTFS 56)	Head of Rural and Cultural Economy	E+G	Green	New centres in 2026; online and library services continue.
	A3.1.4	Update the Statement of Licensing Policy	Head of Regulatory Services	Council	Green	SOLP reviewed; approval scheduled for July, final decision in December.
P3.2	A3.2.1	Monitor the continued successful delivery of the Cleaner Crewe project.	Head of Neighbourhood Services	E+C	Green	Progress measures for cleaner Crewe project remain in place.
	A3.2.2	Update and deliver the Air Quality Strategy, following consultation.	Head of Regulatory Services	E+C	Green	Air Quality Strategy updated; scheduled for July, ongoing implementation reported.
	A3.2.3	Update the <a href="#">Safer Cheshire East Partnership Plan</a>	Locality Manager, Community Safety	E+C	Amber	2024-25 Partnership Plan and 2023-24 Annual Report outline community safety activities, funding, and priorities, reviewed annually for emerging risks
P3.3	A3.3.1	Continue implementation and monitoring of the Green Spaces Maintenance Policy	Head of Environmental Services	E+C	Green	New policy adopted; maintenance changes successful, further improvements underway.
	A3.3.2	Update the Cheshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Head of Planning	E+C	Measure not due	
	A3.3.3	Finalise and implement the <a href="#">Biodiversity Net Gain</a> Supplementary Planning Document	Head of Planning	E+C	Green	BNG SPD updated; adoption scheduled for July after legislative changes

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Peer review action plan
P3.4	A3.4.1	Complete Bus Service Review and refresh Bus Service Improvement Plan	Head of Strategic Transport and Parking	H+T	Green	Consultation done; papers drafted for ongoing committee discussions
	A3.4.2	Deliver an integrated borough-wide demand-responsive transport service (Go-Too and Flexilink)	Head of Strategic Transport and Parking	H+T	Green	Consultation done; papers drafted for ongoing committee discussions
	A3.4.3	Secure further funding for active travel routes	Head of Strategic Transport and Parking	H+T	Green	
	A3.4.4	Update business cases for Middlewich Eastern Bypass and A500 dualling	Head of Strategic Infrastructure	H+T	Green	Middlewich Bypass submission in September; A500 Business Case development funded.
P3.5	A3.5.1	Deliver the <a href="#">Cheshire East Rural Action Plan 2022-26</a>	Head of Rural and Cultural Economy	E+G	To be added	
	A3.5.2	Continue to deliver Connected Cheshire digital infrastructure	Head of Economic Development	E+G	Green	The Digital Cheshire Team is advancing the Connecting Cheshire Digital Plan by closing the airband contract, developing digital voucher schemes, rolling out community asset infrastructure, collaborating with Project Gigabit, and piloting alternative technologies like 4G, 5G, and satellite for remote areas.
	A3.5.3	Continue to pursue a compensation package following scrapping of HS2 Phase 2	Programme Director HS2	E+G	To be added	
	A3.5.4	Develop a clear place marketing approach	Head of Economic Development	E+G	Green	The business and growth team is attracting investment with an Australian Pharma expansion and a German automotive business in Crewe. They are conducting an economic assessment and evaluating marketing materials to promote Cheshire East digitally and at events like UKREIFF.

Priority	What we will do - Priority actions for 2024/25		Lead Officer	Committee	Q1 progress	Peer review action plan
	A3.5.5	Enable the delivery of Handforth Garden Village	Head of Economic Development	E+G	Green	Development of the Garden Village at Handforth is on schedule. Balfour Beatty is designing infrastructure and roads, with work starting in September 2026. The council is collaborating with landowners on character area designs and exploring alternative delivery models for evaluation by the Economy and Growth Committee.
P3.6	A3.6.1	Deliver actions to achieve the objectives of the Carbon Neutral Action Plan 2027 (updated timescale)	Head of Environmental Services	E+C	Amber	Good Q1 progress; electric vans, decarbonisation, solar farm nearing completion.
	A3.6.2	Update the borough-wide Carbon-Neutrality Action Plan 2045 following public consultation	Head of Environmental Services	E+C	Green	Consultation done; Action Plan adoption pending at future committee.

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## Appendix 2 – Organisational Health Performance Report Q1



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