



Reigate & Banstead
BOROUGH COUNCIL
Banstead | Horley | Redhill | Reigate

Signed off by	Director of People
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To	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date	Thursday, 21 January 2021
Executive Member	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Support, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, Portfolio Holder for Community Partnerships

Key Decision Required	N
Wards Affected	(All Wards);

Subject	People Portfolio Holders update
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Recommendations
To note the Portfolio Holder Briefings on the People Portfolios, as set out in this report, and to provide any observations for consideration by Executive Members.
Reasons for Recommendations
To consider the progress of work in the People Portfolio objectives, as of January 2021, including achievements relating to the Borough Council's emergency response to COVID-19.
Executive Summary
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This report provides an overview of the activities undertaken within the People Portfolio areas in the Municipal Year to date.2. The three People Portfolios are Housing & Support, Leisure & Culture and Community Partnerships.

Key Information

Executive Portfolios

1. Following the Annual Council meeting on 29 May 2019, the Leader of the Council appointed the Members of the Executive for the Municipal Year 2019/20 on 30 May 2019. Each Member of the Executive undertook an area of responsibility, known as a portfolio.
2. Executive Members continued in their roles for the Municipal Year 2020/21 as the elections in May 2020 were postponed due to the pandemic. There were minor changes to the portfolio names and responsibilities in 2020.
3. For operational purposes, these portfolios are aligned with the three themes of the Council's current and emerging Corporate Plans, these being People, Place and Organisation.
4. The three portfolios aligned with the People theme are Housing & Support, Leisure & Culture and Community Partnerships.
5. The areas of responsibility of these portfolios are as follows:
 - **Housing & Support:** Housing Delivery Strategy, Housing Support, Homelessness, Housing Benefits, Housing Register, Family Support, Money Support, Refugee Support, Safeguarding.
 - **Leisure & Culture:** Leisure Strategy, Leisure Centres, Leisure Activities, Arts & Culture, Harlequin.
 - **Community Partnerships:** Community Centres, Community Safety, Community Development, Health Partnerships, Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector.

Portfolio Objectives

6. Following their appointment, Executive Members agreed objectives for their portfolio areas for the Municipal Year.
7. Progress against these objectives was assessed by the Committee last year. Due to the Council's reprioritisation of services and emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, objectives were not updated and agreed for 2021/22. The information provided for the consideration of this Committee is therefore an update on business as usual against benchmarks used as part of objectives agreed last year, or draft benchmarks. Information is also provided detailing Portfolio Holder achievements during the emergency response to the pandemic.
8. Progress to date is set out in the presentation slides from each Portfolio Holder to the Committee set out in Annex 1 to this report.

Overview and Scrutiny

9. As part of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's role of holding the Executive to account, members of the Executive provide regular briefings to the Committee on their portfolios and key items of business within these areas.

10. To reflect the coordinated approach of Portfolio Holders within the Corporate Plan themes, these briefings are presented by theme.

11. The members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider the briefing provided, and to offer any observations to the Portfolio Holders. These observations will then be considered to help inform future activities within these portfolios.

Equalities Implications

12. A substantial proportion of our People Services are focused on supporting our most vulnerable residents, including residents from across all of the protected groups. Our services have equalities considerations at their core, for example:

- The Housing Register & Allocations Policy is framed to positively support protected groups, recognising and responding to specific housing needs which include age, disability, gender etc. We offer an individual housing advice service tailored to the needs of each client.
- Our community development activities are centred around increasing participation and engagement and have a positive impact on equalities.
- We consider equalities issues in the delivery of community safety services, helping to protect vulnerable residents and communities.

Annex

1. Portfolio Holder presentation slides