

**Report to:** Cabinet 5 December 2023

**Lead Cabinet Members:** All

**From:** Councillor Graham Cone, Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee  
Councillor Stephen Drew, Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee

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## Update from Scrutiny and Overview Committee

### Purpose

1. This report informs Cabinet about the outcome of discussion among members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee at the meeting on 16 November 2023.

### 2023-24 Quarter Two Performance Report

2. Having received responses to questions posed by Committee members and having reviewed the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) results and comments at Appendix A to the report and progress against Business Plan actions at draft Appendix B, the Scrutiny and Overview Committee commends them to Cabinet.

### Health & Wellbeing Strategy Refresh 2024-2028

3. Having received responses to questions posed by Committee members and having reviewed the Strategy and its appendices, the Scrutiny and Overview Committee commends them to Cabinet with the following comments:

#### a. Community Transport

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee asks the Lead Cabinet Member for Communities to look again at how the Council can support Community Transport schemes to find more volunteer drivers. The Committee also asks the Lead Cabinet Member to discuss options with officers and with other stakeholders in an effort to see whether best practice for existing schemes, for example a WhatsApp group in Cambourne, could be shared to help people make unplanned journeys where community transport is not a viable option.

## **b. Mental Health**

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee emphasises the importance of good mental health and welcomes the Council working on this in partnership with the Integrated Care System.

## **c. Communication**

While noting there is already an extensive network of communications channels used to promote health and wellbeing measures (including more passive channels such as *South Cambs Magazine*), the Scrutiny and Overview Committee calls for ongoing active promotion to be used as well whenever possible to ensure those in most need are being supported.

## **General Fund Revenue Bids & Savings**

4. Having received responses to questions posed by Committee members and having reviewed
  - growth bids put forward (both one off and ongoing), detailed at Appendices A and B to the report
  - the proposed range of service efficiency savings and additional income detailed in Appendix C

and having considered whether those for 2024-25 should be included in the Budget to be proposed in February 2024, the Scrutiny and Overview Committee commends them to Cabinet with the following two comments:

### **a. New digital phone lines**

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee looks forward to Committee members being kept informed about progress and notified about measures to protect the functionality of 'red button' alarm systems.

### **b. Empty Homes Officer**

Scrutiny and Overview Committee members requested more details about the importance of the role played by such an officer and received a detailed note on 23 November 2023.

## **Report Author:**

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