



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5TH MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM (9)

PUBLICA BUSINESS PLAN 2019/20

Accountable Members	Councillor AW Berry Leader of the Council Councillor C Hancock Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Partnerships
Accountable Officer(s)	David Neudegg Managing Director, Publica 01285 623100 david.neudegg@publicagroup.uk
Purpose of Report	To consider the draft Publica Business Plan for 2019/20.
Recommendation	That the Committee considers the Business Plan and forwards any comments it wishes to make to the Cabinet.
Reason(s) for Recommendation(s)	To provide an opportunity for the Committee to engage in the on-going development of Publica and its relationship with the Council
Ward(s) Affected	All
Key Decision	No
Recommendation to Council	No
Financial Implications	<p>As part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, savings are included in line with the business case approved in October 2016. Publica is required to deliver these savings and the Business Plan sets out how it intends to deliver these both in respect of 2019/20 and also in respect of future years.</p> <p>The savings set out in the recently adopted MTFS for the Council are £639,000 over the period April 2019 to March 2022.</p>
Legal and Human Rights Implications	<p>The governance of Publica is set out in the company's Articles of Association, Members' Agreement and the Service Agreements with the Councils.</p> <p>The company Members' Agreement sets out a number of reserved matters which can only be decided on a 75% agreement of shareholders (each Council owning one share). Cotswold District Council has agreed that the Leader of the Council shall act on its behalf in casting its vote for reserved matters decisions. Approval of the Publica Business Plan is one such reserved matter item.</p>

Environmental and Sustainability Implications	None directly arising from this report
Human Resource Implications	None directly arising from this report
Key Risks	<p>There are no specific risks in adopting the Publica Business Plan as it is based upon the principles and targets set out in the business case approved by the Council in 2016.</p> <p>If the Council (via its Leader) does not adopt the Plan, there is a risk that the company will not be able to commence some of the activities necessary to deliver the savings set out in the business case and the Council's MTFs.</p>
Related Decisions	<p>Council reports - 27th September 2016, 13th June 2017 and 19th October 2017</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Cabinet reports - draft Business Plan 2018/19</p>
Background Documents	Council reports - 27 th September 2016, 13 th June 2017 and 19 th October 2017
Appendices	Appendix 'A' - Publica Draft Business Plan 2019/20

Performance Management Follow Up	Report any comments to the Cabinet
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Options for Joint Working	Publica is an example of joint working across local authorities
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<p>Background</p> <p>1. As part of the establishment of Publica, a number of items were identified as reserved matters for Council approval to ensure that member Councils retained an element of control over their company. The reserved matters were approved in October 2016 as part of the governance principles underpinning the establishment of Publica.</p> <p>2. The reserved matters decisions fall to the shareholder representatives to determine. For each partner Council this is the Leader of the Council. To assist the Leader in reaching his decision, it has been requested that Cabinet reviews the Business Plan and suggests any appropriate amendments (which it will do at its Meeting on 21st March 2019), aided by any comments from this Committee.</p> <p>3. The Group Finance Director of Publica, Frank Wilson, will attend the Meeting to make a presentation on the Business Plan, and respond to any questions.</p> <p>4. A copy of the draft Business Plan 2019/20 is attached as Appendix 'A' to this report. It should be noted that this has not as yet been formally considered by the Publica Board</p>

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