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**Agenda** 

### Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1)

#### **Time and Date**

2.00 pm on Thursday, 6th July, 2023

### **Place**

Diamond Rooms 1 and 2 - Council House

### **Public Business**

- 1. Apologies and Substitutions
- 2. **Declarations of Interest**
- Minutes
  - (a) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2023 (Pages 3 6)
  - (b) Matters Arising
- 4. **Workforce Metrics** (Pages 7 34)

Briefing note

5. Corporate Learning and Development Report 2022 - 2023 (Pages 35 - 46)

Briefing note

6. Work Programme and Outstanding Issues (Pages 47 - 50)

Report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator

7. Any other items of Public Business

Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved

### **Private Business**

Nil

Julie Newman, Chief Legal Officer, Council House, Coventry

Wednesday, 28 June 2023

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Carolyn Sinclair carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors J Blundell, R Brown (By Invitation), B Gittins, P Hetherton (By Invitation), J Innes, R Lakha, J Lepoidevin, K Maton, J McNicholas, E Ruane (Chair) and T Sawdon

### **Public Access**

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Carolyn Sinclair @coventry.gov.uk

# Agenda Item 3a

# <u>Coventry City Council</u> <u>Minutes of the Meeting of Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) held</u> at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 29 March 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor R Auluck (Chair)

Councillor J Blundell Councillor J Innes Councillor R Lakha Councillor J Lepoidevin Councillor J McNicholas Councillor T Sawdon

Other Members: Councillor R Brown, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance

and Resources

Employees:

Interim Chief B Hastie, Interim Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer)
Executives K Nelson, Interim Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer)

Business, Investment &

Culture

D Nuttall, A Williams

Law and Governance: J Newman (Chief Legal Officer), V Castree, C Sinclair

In Attendance: D Burbidge (former Trustee of the City of Culture Trust)

Apologies: Councillor B Gittins, S Nazir and E Ruane

Councillor D Welsh, Cabinet Member for Housing and

Communities

Councillor K Caan, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport and former Trustee of the City of Culture Trust

### **Public Business**

### 35. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 36. City of Culture Trust - Background to Loan Decision

The Board considered a briefing note detailing background information in respect of the City Council granting a loan to the Coventry City of Culture Trust ("the Trust").

In summary, on 4 October 2022 the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources approved a loan from the Council up to a sum of £1m to Coventry the Trust on commercial terms. The loan was subsequently made later that month. On 2 February 2023 the Trust publicly announced that it was in a difficult financial

position with ongoing cashflow difficulties and on 28<sup>th</sup> February it confirmed that it was entering administration.

This course of events had raised questions about the Council's involvement in the financial affairs of the Trust and the decision to make the loan. The briefing note included some background to the Trust, including a brief financial history and initial analysis of the reasons for the Trust's financial problems. Amongst others it provided specific responses in the following areas:

- The context for the City Council providing the loan.
- The Trust financial history
- Loan decision background
- The Council's policy basis for making the loan.
- The due diligence undertaken prior to the loan being made.
- Trust financial difficulties
- Application of the Council loan
- Mitigation of the Council's financial position
- How the loan was used by the Trust.

It was noted that this didn't include answers any wider questions about the running of the Trust, for which the Council was not responsible.

The Board questioned Officers and received responses on a number of matters including:

- Reasons for the shortfall on the anticipated budget income identified in October 2022.
- Request for Trust Board minutes of meetings and reasons for the position taken by the Universities.
- Level of risk to the Trust if the loan was not made.
- The role of the Trust's Audit and Risk Committee leading up to the period of a worse than anticipated position becoming apparent in August 2022.
- Reasons for the cashflow crises given the Trust's successful record in attracting grants and other contributions.

The Board noted that in respect of the legacy phase, conversations on avenues and opportunities to explore were currently being undertaken with funders. The intention was to carry on working in partnership to continue the legacy and this was welcomed by the Board.

RESOLVED that the board note the contents of the briefing note and welcomed the ongoing work on a legacy programme.

### 37. Responses to Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board 1 Questions

The Board considered a briefing note which set out responses received to questions from Members of the Board which had been raised in relation to the City of Culture Trust.

Former Trustees of the Trust had been invited to attend the meeting. A number had declined the invitation or not responded for a range of reasons.

Mr David Burbidge, former Trustee of the Trust, was welcomed to the meeting. Members paid tribute to Mr Burbidge for the work that he had done leading up to and during the Coventry City of Culture year.

The Board asked Mr Burbidge questions on a number of matters including:

- His view on the status of the Trust at the point he finished as he had planned to do.
- The legacy phase
- Relationships between Trust members and the Executive Board

In his closing comments, Mr Burbidge referred to the benefits which had been derived during the City of Culture year and the importance of continuing to promote the many positive benefits following the City of Culture year.

Following discussion, the Board requested the following information:

- A summary of responses received from those who had been invited to the meeting
- Further Information on the cost of the evaluation programme and the university contributions.
- A copy of the Trust's Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the information contained within the briefing note and the submissions made at the meeting be noted
- 2. To receive the additional information as detailed above
- 3. To thank Mr David Burbidge for his attendance and his contribution to the meeting

### 38. Work Programme and Outstanding Issues

The Work Programme was noted with a clarification following a question on the Annual Performance report on Coventry Municipal Holdings. Due to timing factors, the report had been considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee at their meeting on 19 October 2022. Future annual reports on holdings would be scheduled on the Scrutiny Board 1 work programme.

### 39. Any other items of Public Business

This, being the final Board meeting of the 2022/23 Municipal Year, Councillor J McNicholas thanked the Chair, Councillor R Auluck, for her work over the past year, and this was supported by the Board. Councillor R Auluck extended her thanks to Members of the Board for their attendance and contribution during the year and to Officers for their work in supporting the Board.

(Meeting closed at 4.05 pm)

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# Agenda Item 4



# **Briefing note**

To: Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board 1 Date: 6th July 2023

**Subject: Workforce Metrics.** 

### 1 Purpose of the Note

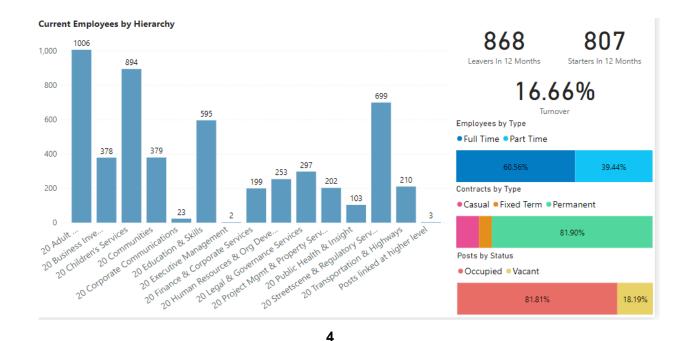
- 1.1 This report provides the current workforce analytics from numbers employed, turnover, starters, leavers, sickness absence, right through to agency workers. Where possible historical data has been included for comparative purposes. Although it should be noted this data will include years impacted by Covid and is reflected within the information provided.
- 1.2 This report enables members to have a comprehensive overview of the HR metrics and provide an understand of the workforce metrics.

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report and some of the workforce challenges faced post-Covid. For example, the skill shortages/recruitment challenges in some areas as well as the measures being taken to address the issues.
- 2.2 To acknowledge the work being undertaken to improve the range and access to data and the support work to improve areas of challenge such as sickness absence and where this work is showing signs of improvement for example in Street scene.
- 2.3 Identify any recommendations for the Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources)

### 3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Currently the City Council as of the 19<sup>th of</sup> June 2023 has 5180 employees or 4153 FTE and turnover is currently at 16.66%. The breakdown below provides the details of numbers within each service and types of contracts. HR are now able to provide workforce analytical information due to the development of the data warehouse which has been a shared development between HR and IT. The information is refreshed daily and is accessible to directors and managers on their desktops.
- 3.2 The data overleaf is a 'snapshot' of the type of information now available, and it is flexible enough to be able to view at service level and by category so for example, grade, contract type, occupied and vacant.



- 4.1 As evidenced by the next two tables, turnover is currently higher than it has been for a while. This is being impacted by a number of things, a slower recruitment process as managers are managing their budgets more prudently, there is a national shortage of social workers which is reflected in Children's Services and therefore their vacancy rate. The service is working hard to address but has increased its use of agency workers to ensure the service can operate 'safely'. Adults are also struggling to recruit and retain care staff which also shows in their figures. In addition, there are pressures in other areas (such legal services and in highways) as their technical roles can be quite specialist and the private sector pays higher salaries for these roles causing attraction issues.
- 4.2 The two tables below provide the breakdown over the last 5 years, with increases in employees taking place in 2019, 2020 and 2021 due to the increase in temporary contracts because of Covid. The pandemic also 'slowed' turnover, but the recent cost of living crisis has yielded a buoyant recruitment market. As a result, some areas- such as customer services- have found It more difficult than usual to fill vacant posts.

CCC (Non School) Turnover Based on Headcount Excluding Casuals					
Year (12-month Period April to March):	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Number of Employees at Period Start	4346	4520	4608	4721	4814
Number of Employees at Period End	4506	4619	4725	4845	4750
Average Employees in Period	4426	4569.5	4666.5	4783	4782
Number of Leavers in Period	464	479	367	690	723
Labour Turnover (percentage)	10.48	10.48	7.86	14.43	15.12

CCC (Non School) Turnover Based on Headcount Including Casuals					
Year (12-month Period April to March):	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Number of Employees at Period Start	4791	4925	5060	5362	5225
Number of Employees at Period End	4916	5072	5384	5289	5194
Average Employees in Period	4853.5	4998.5	5222	5325.5	5209.5
Number of Leavers in Period	618	573	489	965	901
Labour Turnover (percentage)	12.73	11.46	9.36	18.12	17.30

The next table provides the details of the new starters by service over the last 5 years. Points to note: the highest numbers are from the largest service areas and the recruitment challenges have previously been highlighted. Human Resources includes ICT which has had an investment to improve and increase cyber security-which created a growth in posts. Legal Services also now includes procurement and regulatory services and Streetscene recruitment has been impacted by the industrial action last year.

Financial Year:	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Services Group (excludes schools)	New Starters Headcount	New Starters Headcount	New Starters Headcount	New Starters Headcount	New Starters Headcount
20 Adult Services	114	139	144	137	155
20 Business Investment & Culture	57	62	80	71	60
20 Children's Services	154	114	149	204	167
20 Communities	75	68	31	58	74
20 Corporate Communications	1	2	0	1	3
20 Education & Skills	85	84	261	119	133
20 Finance & Corporate Services	13	16	5	14	15
20 Human Resources & Org Development	19	30	26	18	20
20 Legal & Governance Services	26	45	30	28	42
20 Project Management & Property Services	13	10	16	20	14
20 Public Health & Insight	12	18	8	39	17
20 Streetscene & Regulatory Services	177	120	44	127	62
20 Transportation & Highways	17	24	13	15	25
CCC total starters (headcount)	759	732	805	851	787
Financial Year	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023

### **Retention**

To support the recruitment and retention of our workforce (besides the salary, annual leave and pension), the council offers a range of other benefits. We continually seek to improve and develop these benefits so there is a wide and relevant offer for the workforce. The table below details the extent of what is provided by category, the majority being introduced over the last three years.

Children's Services have also undertaken a wide range of work to attract and retain staff including the introduction of retention payments, reviewing roles and grades, introducing clinical supervision and regular health and well-being weeks

The wider workforce has influenced our benefits work through several pulse surveys undertaken in the last 3 years namely June 2020, January 21, September 21, and July 22. As a result, based on the feedback from employees, we amended the agile and flexible working offer and revised the mental health support according to feedback from the surveys. A full staff survey will be undertaken supported by DJS Research Provider in Autumn 2023.

Recognition has also been an important development of our reward strategy supporting retention. Cheers for Peers is very popular and is a way of sending a card to say thank you. The Spire Awards are the next step which is an event which celebrates those employees who go above and beyond and are made through peer nominations. A formal celebration event is held with the nominees and Directors to share the achievements.

The latest edition to our offer is the Employee Welfare Support Loan.





# **Employee Recognition Pyramid**







Benefits Offer

Mental Health	General Health	MSK
Counselling - Face	Health and Wellbeing	Musculoskeletal (MSK)
to Face, TEAMS,	Wednesday and	Fast Care Clinics
and telephone	healthy lifestyle clinics	
counselling	off site	
Employee	Wellbeing Champions	At the desk massage –
Assistance Platform		neck and shoulders
Mental Health	Talks on Fibromyalgia	Flex and Stretch in the
Support Clinics	and Chronic pain	workplace
Mental Health	Health and Wellbeing	Podiatry Clinics
Responders – for	Booth in Friargate	
mental health		
support in the		
workplace		
Group meditation	Flu vaccinations	MSK Additional
		Interventions – referral
		for MRI, Physiotherapy,
		Consultant assessment
Relaxation for panic	Be Healthy, Be Safe,	
attacks	Be Well Newsletter	
On-line CBT	Occupational Health,	
	Safety and Wellbeing	
T "	Portal on SharePoint	
Talks on	Cancer Buddy	
neurodivergence	Scheme	

Travel	Lifestyle	Fitness & Crafts	Finance & Discounts
Car salary	Holiday Purchase	Christmas Craft	Benefit portal -
Sacrifice:	Scheme	Sessions	discounts/gift cards
<ul> <li>Zenith</li> </ul>			etc:
<ul> <li>Tusker</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Knowles</li> </ul>			
Cycle Scheme	Childcare Vouchers	Yoga	Privilege Card -local
Salary Sacrifice	salary sacrifice		discounts
Bike Shop	AVC's	Zumba	Credit Union
Travel Cards	Home Electronics	Cycling in the Park	Payroll Giving
		for Fitness Event	
Workplace	Simply Health/	KIADO -Challenge x	Long Service Award
Parking Pass	Westfield	3 (six-week	and event
		challenges in teams)	Spire Awards and
			Cheers for Peers.
Business	Trade union	Council Choir	Employee Welfare
Parking Pass	membership/		Support Loan
	employee networks		
	Flexible/Agile		Salary Finance Loans
	Working available on		& Savings – Procuring
	commencement		has commenced
	including equipment		
	purchase support		

### Relocation

As a council, in line with terms and conditions we also operate a relocation scheme which supports an employee moving to Coventry if they live in another part of the country to take up a job role.

The scheme provides those employees who meet the threshold a payment of up to £8,000 which is repayable on a percentage basis should the employee leave within three years. The cost for this scheme for the last five years is detailed above and it has supported 30 employees in total, majority of whom are based within Children's Services.

The costs for operating the scheme are detailed below.

2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
£33,231.88	£32,483.71	£13,886.96	£4,635.60	£20,435.96

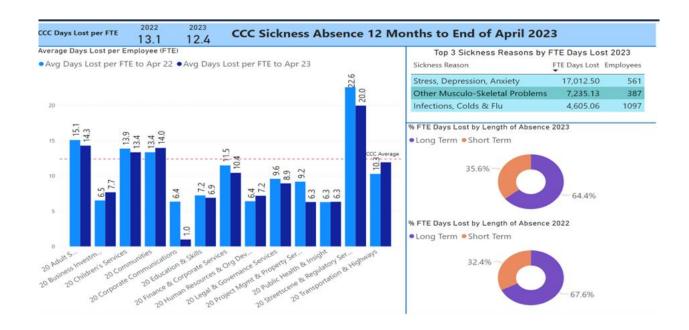
The majority of those employees who access relocation are based in Children's Services which is reflective of the work undertaken to recruit to social work and related posts.

Grade	2022/2023 total	Post	2021/22 Total	Post
10	0	N/A	0	N/A
9	0	N/A	2	Team Manager
8	0	N/A	1	Advanced Social Worker
7	7	Social Worker	3	Social Worker
6	5	Social Worker	2	Social Worker
5	1	Children & Family Worker	0	N/A
Grade	2019/2020 Total	Post	2018/19	Post
Other	0	N/A	1	Property & Development
				Post
10	0	N/A	0	N/A
9	0	N/A	1	Children's Manager
8	1	Advanced Social Worker	1	Senior Practitioner
7	2	Social Worker	2	Social Worker
6	0	N/A	1	Social Worker
5	0	N/A	0	N/A

### **Sickness Absence**

The overall absence rate across the Council is 12.4 days per FTE, which is a slight decrease from 2022 when the rate was 13.1 days.

The highest reason for absence remains stress, depression, and anxiety, which has been the case for some time. A new absence management policy was introduced in November 2021 with support from the trades unions.



'Enabling Attendance' and has introduced a different approach which concentrates on keeping our employees well in the work place and their overall health and well-being. The Health and Well-Being Group continues to meet and has been central in developing different options to improve health in the workplace particularly in relation to mental health.

The current support we provide for mental health issues is: access to counselling both in house and through the employee assistance programme with 182 employees being seen in 22/23. There is a menopause clinic operating one afternoon per week and in the first quarter of the year, has seen 57 employees. Furthermore, there are Wellbeing Wednesday sessions for employees to access bespoke health advice, again this is popular with 35 employees being seen in Quarter 1 of 2023/24. Occupational Health, Safety and Well-Being also offer a range of training on resilience and mental health well-being such as mindfulness.

We also introduced mental health clinics in November which take place 3 days per week, one of these at Whitley Depot and overall to date has seen 105 employees, with the latest figures detailed below.

### Mental Health Support Summary - Latest Report

1st April – 30th June 2023

Referrals for support can be made via the manager, HR, or self-referral.

The following is a summary of the Mental Health Support Clinic.

Table 1: Overview of appointments	No
Number of referrals into service	71
Number of new self-referrals	21
Number of new management referrals	50
Reviews	76

### **Further intervention summary:**

Table 2: By service area	No.
Streetscene and Regulatory Service	32
Adult Services	7
Children's services	7
Finance and Corporate Services	4
Housing and Transformation	3
Public Health and Insights	10
Other/ education/corporate	09

Table 3: Mental Health Issue	No
Addiction	9
Anxiety	21
Depression	5
PTSD	4
Stress	32
Work related	30
Supporting manager stress	7
tools	

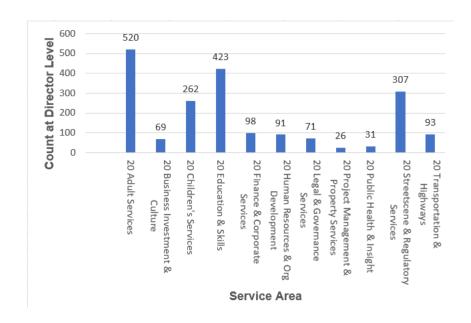
Table 4: intervention	No
External resource	22
Internal resource / counselling service	6
Internal and external resource	9
Holding appts	65

For MSK issues we provide physiotherapy, a dedicated clinic back clinic and podiatry; these numbers are monitored monthly.

### **Return to Work**

Return to work interviews are tracked against the absence numbers as the forms are now completed online and this enables managers and HR to identify where further and better support is needed and that the procedure is being used.

The table below provides the numbers of return-to-work interviews completed from April 2022 – April 2023.



The table below shows the numbers of 'live' absence cases currently being monitored and supported in line with Enabling Attendance by managers and HR. These cases are a combination of both long and short cases and will include occupational health support.

Case Type / Department	Enabling Attendance cases	Percentage (%) by Department
20 Adult Services	99	28.3%
20 Business Investment & Culture	3	0.9%
20 Children's Services	46	13.1%
20 Education & Skills	63	18.0%
20 Finance & Corporate Services	15	4.3%
20 Human Resources & Org Development	4	1.1%
20 Legal & Governance Services	9	2.6%
20 Project Management & Property Services	4	1.1%
20 Public Health & Insight	1	0.3%
20 Streetscene & Regulatory Services	87	24.9%
20 Transportation & Highways	19	5.4%
Total No. Cases by Case Type	350	
Percentage (%) by Case Type	100.0%	

### <u>Agency</u>

The council does use agency staff when/where required to fill gaps in service delivery to cover established roles / posts for the purposes of annual leave / sickness, recruitment to vacant posts, extra demand in workload and / or project work. The council uses a 'master vendor contract' which is one supplier sourcing the necessary workers on our behalf. This is more efficient way to manage both in terms of time and cost, the contract is regularly reviewed.

Coventry City Council's prominent agency contracts are detailed below.

Agency Name	Contract Length
Pertemps Agency	December 2013 – June 2018
Reed Agency	June 2018 – June 2022
Hays Agency	June 2022 - present

The table below shows the spend over the last five years, during this time there have been three master vendors: red denotes increases in spend, again this information is reviewed and monitored quarterly.

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Annual Total Spend	£4,860,132	£4,478,428	£6,135,517	£7,225,054	£6,703,251
Service Area Spend Breakdown					
Adult Services	£794,827	£839,292	£438,222	£810,422	£1,081,377
Children's Services	£3,112,400	£2,270,808	£3,510,687	£4,176,380	£3,642,476
Customer Services & Transformation	£281,943	£501,872	£344,155	£134,903	£0
Human Resources	£0	£8,199	£6,006	£5,782	£34,234
Education and Skills	£7,878	£4,004	£1,139	£42,475	£108,532
City Centre & Major Projects	£13,498	£16,366	£0	£0	£0
Public Health & Insight	£0	£0	£0	£0	£127,971
Finance & Corporate Services	£96,477	£221,224	£14,838	£155,632	£384,512
Law & Governance Services**	£0	£0	£460,286	£740,513	£758,477
Project Management & Property Services	£29,215	£81,341	£117,875	£162,062	£177,020
Streetscene & Regulatory Services	£516,776	£462,938	£956,710	£945,651	£322,358
Transportation & Highways	£7,117	£72,381	£285,597	£50,337	£66,294

This spend does not include consultancy work.

Agency rates vary according to the type of worker used. For social work there is a regional memorandum of understanding in terms of rates paid to avoid a 'bidding war' and therefore increase costs. Below is a sample of the pay rates currently in use for the most used roles at this moment in time.

Current - Top Job Titles	Current Workers	Median Pay Rate
Senior / Social Worker – Children's	34	£33
Senior / Social Worker - Adults	32	£32
Senior Practitioner – Children's	6	£33.30
Lawyer	6	£48.42
Occupational Therapist	6	£33.19
Independent Reviewing Officer – Children's	4	£41.24

Separately, to support capital programmes of work, agency workers or consultants are used to support these specialised and/or time limited projects. The cost of these types of workers for the last five years is detailed which decreased during Covid. Some suppliers will provide both professional services as well as consultancy.

Detail has been provided by the project, spend and then by supplier, with their costs for the last

five years. These costs are included within the project plans/costs.

Capital Expenditure Consultancy by scheme	2018-19	2019-20		2021-22	2022-23	Total
	£000's	£000's	<b>£000</b> 's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Air Quality & Innovation	£173	£216	£758	£1,010	£669	£2,826
Basic Need	£0	£14	£59	£76	£89	£237
City Centre & Development Services	£8	£0	£11	£0	£0	£19
City of Culture 2021	£0	£322	£164	£424	£172	£1,083
Coventry City Centre Regeneration	£41	£161	£209	£398	£577	£1,386
Coventry Station Masterplan	£400	£617	£977	£917	£230	£3,142
Growth Deal	£33	£0	£0	£0	£0	£33
Highways Maintenance	£124	£104	£177	£380	£71	£856
Highways Section 106 Schemes	£0	£0	£41	£247	£141	£429
Integrated Transport Programme	£75	£128	£253	£265	£246	£966
Investment Properties	£567	£811	£1,031	£0	£30	£2,440
Kick-Start	£9	£0	£0	£0	£0	£9
Leisure	£399	£238	£27	£23	£0	£686
Local Pinch Point Fund	£2	£4	£1	£0	£0	£7
Public Realm	£546	£1,217	£2,116	£1,451	£168	£5,498
Regional Growth Fund	£29	£58	£0	£0	£0	£87
Strategic ICT	£0	£30	£0	£72	£117	£219
UK Central and City Region Sustainable						
Transport Settlement (CRSTS)	£321	£616	£398	£530	£1,285	£3,150
Vehicle & Plant Replacement	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Waste Services Equipment	£0	£700	£1,148	£200	£0	£2,048
Whitley South Infrastructure	£788	£213	£174	£11	£3	£1,188
Grand Total	£3,516	£5,448	£7,545	£6,004	£3,798	£26,311

Capital Expenditure - Consultancy by Provider	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Aecom Infrastructure & Environment UK						
Ltd	£226	£399	£292	£0	£0	£917
Appleyard & Trew LLP	£207	£106	£33	£28	£5	£379
Atkins Ltd	£2,068	£3,378	£5,409	£4,006	£650	£15,511
Beep Consulting Ltd	£0	£0	£0	£72	£117	£189
Bloom Procurement Services Ltd	£789	£991	£1,024	£433	£304	£3,541
Cenex	£6	£0	£19	£175	£0	£200
Deloitte LLP	£33	£169	£204	£398	£577	£1,380
Imagemakers Design & Consultancy Ltd	£0	£0	£2	£367	£142	£512
KPMG LLP	£0	£161	£322	£62	£0	£546
Rider Levett Bucknall UK Ltd	£34	£114	£160	£220	£220	£749
Turner & Townsend Project Management						
Limited	£152	£130	£79	£0	£0	£361
Waterman Aspen Ltd	£0	£0	£0	£242	£1,783	£2,025
Grand Total	£3,516	£5,448	£7,545	£6,004	£3,798	£26,311

### **Exit Payments**

Finally, there are times when employees need to exit the organisation due to a restructure or because the role no longer exists in line within the agreed council policy and procedure. Employees are entitled to a redundancy payment and if the employee is aged 55 or over access to their pension, which creates an additional cost in terms of pension strain as the Council need to refund these costs to the pension fund.

Prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, Part 2I of the Council's constitution required any severance package for an employee of the Council which exceeded £100,000 was to be determined by the Audit and Procurement Committee; however, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 any such decisions now come to full council.

Payments for the last 5 years are detailed below and reported upon annually. The age and length of service of the employee impacts on the average exit cost. In the last financial year the average cost per head for redundancy and pension strain was approximately £37k.

	Exit Payments	No of Employees with exit payments
2022/23 Total	£2,110,415.00	70
Redundancy	£1,006,291.00	
Strain Costs	£1,104,124.00	
2021/22 Total	£2,776,145.00	127
Redundancy	£1,077,583.00	
Strain Costs	£1,698,562.00	
2020/21 Total	£986,110.00	57
Redundancy	£316,861.00	
Strain Costs	£669,249.00	
2019/20 Total	£969,044.00	67
Redundancy	£296,029.00	
Strain Costs	£673,015.00	
2018/19 Total	£292,429.00	84
Redundancy	£122,333.00	
Strain Costs	£170,096.00	

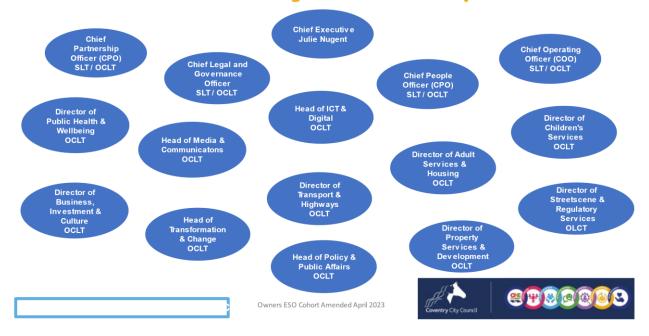
Finally attached for information and completeness is the One Coventry Leadership Team structure chart and the final version of the People Plan 2023-25.

### Susanna Newing Chief People Officer

Susanna.newing@coventry.gov.uk (michael.landon@coventry.gov.uk for executive support)

### Appendix 1 - One Coventry Leadership Team Structure Chart

# **One Coventry Leadership Team**



### **Appendix 2**



This People Plan outlines the activities for next 3 years building on the foundations now in place, whilst playing a central role in supporting the One Coventry Plan and its priorities.

Our workforce is key to our success, so providing the right 'tools' for the job, being clear on purpose, being agile, giving and receiving feedback, working collaboratively, with support and appreciation is the benchmark we are setting ourselves. The five identified 'people' priorities reflect the feedback from consultation undertaken with stakeholders as well as the identified organisational needs from the One Coventry Plan.

The Council's One Coventry Plan sets out our vision and priorities for the city, based on our commitments to the people of Coventry and the things that residents have told us are most important. Responding to this means our People Plan is more focused on the needs and aspirations of our communities than ever before. Our employees are essential to the delivery of those Council priorities, with the People Plan's central theme being to support a motivated and engaged workforce. Critical to that is having a workforce that is diverse and inclusive, we have developed a separate Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy to help us achieve that aim. We are early adopters of the Race Code and actively support both our employee networks and Trades Union colleagues through partnership working.

As the national and global economic climate remains very challenging, increasing the economic prosperity of the city and the region to ensure the continued financial sustainability of the Council is clearly reflected as a One Coventry priority. We want as part of our plan to develop our talented workforce through effective succession planning, timely and personalised learning opportunities to future proof the capabilities and skills needed going forward.

#### The overall aim of the plan is to....

- Continue to work towards being a more diverse and inclusive employer
- Support recruitment and retention challenges with a focus on Children's and Adult Services to address their specific needs
- Be more effective at workforce planning, and the delivery of people analytics
- To support evidence-based decision making
- Take our talent management from strength to strength
- Have strong employee engagement throughout the Council
- Continue to improve the mental and physical health of the workforce
- Support better engagement with health and safety, increasing incident reporting and risk assessment training
- Grow managers' confidence to become effective people managers
- Provide learning opportunities for the future including having a digitally-enabled workforce
- · Continue to develop an open and fair culture
- Effective policies and procedures
- Reward and recognition

### We have five strategic People priorities for the Council for 2023-25:

We believe these five broad themes encompass the One Coventry Plan, reflect the consultation undertaken with key stakeholders and feedback from the wider workforce.



Employee Wellbeing



Workforce Diversity & Inclusion



Employee Experience



Agile and Flexible Workforce



5 Digital HR

Human Resources has four service areas, and several different teams sit within each of those areas as follows:

#### People and Business

systems which support managers and employees to work effectively. Our aim is to maximise the benefits with the next step being to widen local usage and the development of

#### People and Culture

organisational culture which is open, fair, inclusive, and engaging, and where employees are motivated, suitability skilled and focused on providing excellent services to our citizens

A central theme of our work is to ensure that employee engagement is high on our list of people priorities providing employees with a voice so that they can make a difference. Recognising our employees' achievements through new and innovative recognition programmes such as Cheers from Peers and our Spire Awards creates an organisational culture and ethos which values its employees and recognises Talent, whether that be one our apprentices or one of our aspiring leaders.

As a team our key priorities for the next few years will focus on ensuring that we are able to embed the actions within our Workforce Diversity & Inclusion Strategy, improve the customer experience by ensuring that our recruitment & selection processes align themselves with the principles of inclusive recruitment and create opportunities for our Apprenticeships through effective workforce and succession planning.

**YEAR 2 2024** 

#### **Employee Relations**

Using a HR Business Partnering Model, the Employee Relations Team focuses on both individual

employee relations culture, through procedures, and toolkits.

such as disciplinary, grievance, organisational change, and conflict resolutions. We also support

of employee relations including enabling employees to speak up, creating high levels of employee

### Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Creating and sustaining a safe and secure workplace is essential for a healthy and happy workforce.

To deliver this, the Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Team provide a wide range of services as well as ensuring we meet our legal

employment clearance, health assessments, counselling support, mental wellbeing clinics, training, accident and incident reporting and investigation, audit, inspection and

Quarterly formal consultations take place on matters of health, safety, and wellbeing

A monthly Health and Wellbeing Group has been established that develops and supports the wellbeing agenda.

### Implementation Timeline

People Plan 2023 - 25 | 4

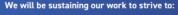
- Embedding agile and flexible working
- recognition awards
- Updating recruitment marketing and application process to maintain relevancy in the marketplace
- New management information and Insight reporting
- health support
- Investing to improve our health and safety support Employee recognition -
- Spire Awards

**TEAR 1 2023** 

A full employee survey

- Introduction of our approach to 'Civility' matters
- Completing the review of policies and procedures including supporting materials and training
- ♠ Improvements in keeping well in the workplace
- Workforce Planning Tools/Support
- Introduction of Job Families
- Silver Thrive Award
- Increasing the uptake of mandatory health and safety training for risk assessment and accident/incident reporting and investigation

- Delivery of the Race Equality Code
- ◆ Conclusion of the Workforce Diversity & Inclusion Strategy
- · Effective retention and talent management through responsive reward and development
- ♠ Continuation of our investment in the systems and processes to improve user experience and
- ♠ New appraisal and talent management system in place
- Gold Thrive Award
- ◆ FNFI Gold Award



- Maintain working in partnership with Trade Union colleagues
- Continually developing our learning opportunities to meet organisational need, maintaining our health and safety standards
- Sustaining and growing our apprenticeship offer
- Increasing employee engagement
- Direct and targeted support to Children's and Adult Services
- Maintaining and improving our statutory and mandatory training figures
- Continue to develop our annual wellbeing offer

# What do we want for our colleagues? We want colleagues to be productive, enjoy what they do, support

We want colleagues to be productive, enjoy what they do, support their health and wellbeing, recognise the contribution they make, and feel valued.

It's important that the Council is a place colleagues want to come to work and would recommend to others because they have a great work experience.

We want to be that employer who is fair, inclusive, encourages development, progression and autonomy, all of which are in line with our organisational values.

# Our commitments to and our expectations of our colleagues

The organisation is committed to our people and firmly believes that working together will enable us to deliver the best for the people of Coventry. To do this, we are committed to providing clarity, learning and development opportunities and regular feedback.



People Plan 2023 - 25 | 5

New starters will be clear on what their role is and how they contribute to Council objectives

Every colleague will be appraised annually, receive feedback on performance along with objectives every year

every year

A healthy and safe workforce

A commitment to diversity and inclusion which underpins all that we do

Will live our behaviours and values

#### Our teams:

Mandatory training will be completed, and opportunities for development will be available

Manager induction on joining or being promoted to ensure effective people management

A range of opportunities for management and leadership development

Access to relevant guidance and support on policies and procedures

Promote health and wellbeing

#### Together we will:

Provide quality services for the residents of Coventry & Have a 'One Coventry' ethos & Be a 'good' employer

Be open and transparent & Support each other to be healthy and well & Actively work in partnership

Be engaged and inclusive & Live and behave in line with our organisational values

### **Commitments - Employee Wellbeing**

Our aim is to INTRODUCE	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Provide employees with access to a range of information and financial services to support financial wellbeing	Improved financial wellbeing     Potential access to pay throughout the month     Improve engagement, retention, and recruitment	Payroll & Employee Benefits Teams	Analytics showing employee take-up     Workforce absence data     Customer feedback	July 2023
To introduce a maternity support toolkit and advice centre	Better and greater support to those taking maternity leave     Retention	Employee Relations Team     Reward & Benefit Lead	Increased retention     Customer feedback	May 2023
Introduce the Wellbeing Klosk	Earlier signposting and access to health services     Improved understanding of health drivers and strategies for better outcomes     Improved attendance	Occupational Health, Safety     Wellbeing Service	Clinical evaluation     Service evaluation     Customer feedback	July 2023
New incident reporting system	Improved reporting and investigation of accidents and incidents     Accessibility and reporting improvements     Improved D&I data in connection with accident and incidents at work	HR Digital Team     Occupational Health, Safety & Wellbeing Service	Improvement in incident recording, including near misses.     Reduction time spent on administering the current system	March 2024
Enhanced Mental Health Support Programme  The development of mental health support clinics Benefits of Buoyancy (BOB) Training Domestic violence workshops Engagement with health partners Addiction support	Earlier signposting and access to services     Improved understanding of self and others mental wellbeing     Strategies for better outcomes     Improved attendance	Occupational Health, Safety     Wellbeing Service	Service evaluation     Customer feedback	December 2024

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Sickness absence monitoring and review of processes	Improved attendance     To utilise the data available to support the Enabling Attendance Policy and target areas of concern	Digital HR     Employee Relations Team	Workforce absence data     Improved attendance     Customer feedback	June 2023
Delivery of Wellbeing Activities Programme including but not limited to:  Wellbeing Wednesday health screening clinics Wellbeing events in line with Public Health and NHS agenda. Supporting wellbeing weeks in 'hotspot' areas Mental Wellbeing Support Clinic 'U OK' - wellbeing conversations training	Earlier signposting and access to health services     Improved understanding of health drivers and strategies for better outcomes     Improved attendance	Occupational Health, Safety & Wellbeing Service	Clinical evaluation     Service evaluation     Customer feedback	Review July 2023

Our aim is to SUSTAIN	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Health and Safety Audit Inspection and Monitoring Programme	The Council and school compliance with health and safety legislation Increased knowledge Effective management of risk	Occupational Health, Safety     Wellbeing Service     All Managers/Headteachers	Local reports and Health & Safety Action Plans     Quarterly formal health and safety consultation meetings	Annual timescale
Monitoring and updating health and safety policies and procedures to reflect changes in legislation	The Council and school compliance with health and safety legislation and best practice compliance	Occupational Health, Safety & Wellbeing Service     Joint Safety Forum     Trade Union Colleagues	Effective policies     Quarterly formal health and safety consultation meetings	Annual timetable
Wellbeing Champions and Mental Health Responders  Increase the number of volunteers, provide training and support	Improved understanding of self and others mental wellbeing Strategies for better outcomes Improved attendance Greater access to support services and increased knowledge	Occupational Health, Safety     & Wellbeing Service     Employees     Volunteers	Service evaluation     Customer feedback	Over 12 months
Musculoskeletal (MSK) Programme Delivery of the MSK Fast Care and Podiatry clinics The MSK intervention service and ergonomic assessment	Earlier interventions to prevent chronic MSK III health     Signposting and access to health services     Improved understanding of sell care and strategies for better outcomes     Improved attendance	Occupational Health, Safety & Wellbeing Service	Workforce absence data     Clinical evaluation     Service evaluation     Customer feedback	Review June 2023
Achieve silver and gold Thrive Award status	Public demonstration at the level of wellbeing provided     Continue to develop and sustain our wellbeing offer	Occupational Health, Safety & Wellbeing Service     Employee Relations Team     HR Digital Team	Secure Silver     Secure Gold	2024 2025

# Commitments - Diversity and Inclusion (D&I)

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Continued delivery of the Workforce Diversity & Inclusion Strategy	Create and maintain a more open, diverse, and inclusive organisation where all employees are welcomed and respected	D&I Team     All Managers/Leaders     Employees     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Networks     HR Digital Team	Employee feedback     Employee Network feedback     and membership     Enhanced Employee     Engagement     Attendance and contribution     at D&I Events     One Coventry Leadership     Team (OCLT) D&I Objectives	Conclude 2025
Adoption of the Race Equality Code (REC)	The Race Equality Code will provide us with a comprehensive framework to improve racial inequality across the organisation	D&I Team     Leaders and Managers     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Networks	<ul> <li>We will see a noticeable improvement across the 4 key principles of the Code; Reporting, Action, Composition and Education</li> </ul>	Conclude 2024
To increase the number of corporate apprentice new starters	Meeting current and future skills gaps and helping to grow our own in areas that are hard to recruit to	Apprenticeship Team     Resourcing Team	A minimum of 30 new corporate apprentice starts per calendar year	Ongoing (reviewed yearly)
Embed 'Diversity & Inclusion' best practice across the Council to ensure consistency in the following areas of resourcing, attraction, selection, and onboarding	A recruitment and selection process that demonstrates our commitment to diversity and inclusion attracting the best talent from a range of diverse backgrounds	People & Culture Team     Communications Team     All Managers/Employees     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Networks     HR Digital Team	<ul> <li>A year on year percentage increase in the number of applicants (both internal and external) with protected characteristics so that our employees are more representative of our local communities</li> </ul>	September 2023

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
To deliver an outstanding compliance service by ensuring that the Council's pre-employment checks and ongoing employment requirements are non-discriminatory and in line with current legislation	To ensure that the Council maintains compliance from onboarding and throughout the employee lifecycle	Resourcing & Compliance Team     Managers/Employees	Manager and employee feedback     Internal Audit     Dip Sampling	October 2023
Secure 'Gold' Employers Network for Diversity and Inclusion	Demonstration that diversity and inclusion in the council has reached the sustain level	People & Culture Team Communications Team All Managers/Employees Trade Union Colleagues Employee Networks HR Digital Team	TIDE assessment	June 2025
Our aim is to SUSTAIN	Outcome – what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
To deliver Positive Action Talent Development programmes to employees identified as being under-represented across the organisation	Enhanced employer brand     Improved retention     Increased engagement     Greater representation of these groups within management/leadership positions	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     D&I Team     All Managers & Employees     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Networks     HR Digital Team	D&I workforce data     Feedback from employees and managers     Appraisal submissions	Ongoing / over 12 months
Gender Pay Gap Reporting	To ensure compliance with Gender Pay Gap reporting as part of our Equality Duty	Management Information     Team     Payroll Team     Employee Relations Lead	Reduction of the gender pay gap issues	Annually
To monitor casework and D&I reporting	To identify areas of concern on a continued basis to identify patterns, trends, or concerns	Management Information Team     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Relations Team	Address any equality issues from any formal casework	Ongoing/over 12 months

### **Commitments - Employee Experience**

Our aim is to INTRODUCE	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
HR Internal Service Level Agreement will detail the types of service and the standard to be expected. It will also provide a signpost to the relevant team/ people	Enable the right services to be contacted, be clear on what they do and what can be expected	HR Service     Commercialisation Working Group	<ul> <li>Monitoring that both Managers and HR teams are meeting the standards set out in the SLA.</li> </ul>	April 2023
Review existing external customers and opportunities for expansion. Review financial charging model used with external customers. Develop marketing strategy	Ensure external customer contracts are commercially viable     Increased opportunities for generating income     HR Services brand and identity is consistent and known	SLA and Commercial Working Group     Finance Team     Commercialisation Manager	Branding is recognised locally with customers and potential customers     Full cost recovery toolincreased income	April 2024
A new Employee Recognition scheme: Level 1- Everyday recognition (Cheers from Peers) Level 2- Above & beyond recognition (Spire Awards) Level 3- Best of the best recognition (Spire Awards)	A fair and consistent approach to how we recognise our employees	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     Reward & Benefit Lead     Managers/Employees     One Coventry Leadership Team (OCLT)     HR Digital Team	Employee stories shared through our One Coventry Newsletter     Team recognition events     Nominations for Spire Awards     Data Analysis     Feedback from managers and employees	From May 2023

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
To provide ongoing HR support to Children's Services to maintain our Ofsted 'Good' whilst we progress our rating 'Outstanding'	A children's workforce where employees feel supported and where retention is high	Human Resource Business Partners(HRBPs)     Resourcing Team     People & Culture Team	Improved outcomes from the annual Health Check and improved retention of Social Workers and other employees across Children's Services	Ongoing
To establish and maintain a coaching culture within the organisation	More effective working relationships, leading to higher customer satisfaction     Improved levels of engagement and retention     Increased employee perceptions of trust and psychological safety	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     Employee Relations Team     All Managers/Employees     Trade Union Colleagues     Employee Networks	Increased take-up of our coaching offer, including:     Coaching Culture online platform     West Midlands Coaching and Mentoring Pool (WMCMP)     L5 Coaching apprenticeship     Appraisal submissions     Engagement survey feedback	Ongoing / over 12 months
To attract top talent through the targeted use of talent attraction strategies	Enhanced employer brand     Improved access to high calibre talent     A more diverse workforce, which accurately reflects the communities we serve.	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     Resourcing Team     Employee Benefits Team     Communications Team     Leaders/Senior Managers	Recruitment data for job roles     Feedback from candidates and hiring managers     Public perceptions of the organisation e.g. social media     Engagement survey feedback	Ongoing / over 12 months
Develop, promote, and embed a new digital learning and development offer for the Council, which is accessible to all employee's learning needs	To have a workforce that has the right skills to meet the digital needs and agility of the organisation.	Corporate Learning &     Development Team     ICT Team	Increase skills/knowledge     Improved digital survey feedback	April 2023
Improve and widen the Employee Benefit Offering	Wider selection of employee benefits available that improve retention, attraction and recruitment.     Provide competitive deals for products and services in the schemes     Promote greener options	Legal & Procurement     Services     Suppliers of Employee     Beneft Schemes     Payroll & Employee     Benefts Teams     HR Digital Team	Data showing take-up of schemes     Employee feedback     Increased take-up of schemes     Supportive to Council's green agenda	July 2023

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
To have a set of user-friendly policies and procedures that are accessible to all	Clear, transparent, employment processes, increase psychological contract	<ul><li>Trade Union Colleagues</li><li>Managers/Employees</li></ul>	All policies and procedures	In line with the review timetable
To develop the Council's approach and understanding of a supportive workplace culture	A considered way of managing issues relating to performance and conduct.     A culture of trust between employees, managers, and trade unions	One Coventry Leadership Team (OCLT)     People & Culture Team     Employee Relations Team	A reduction in disciplinary cases     A reduction in suspensions and measured outcomes     Managers using alternative methods not formal processes all of the time	June 2023
Develop and introduce effective workforce planning	Forecast supply and demand, assess gaps in workforce     Determine and target talent     Create interventions to support the organisation with right people in the right place at the right time	Workforce Planning & Apprenticeship Lead     Employee Relations Lead     Employee Engagement & Talent Lead	A plan which reflects the on-going need     Successful implementation     Toolkit for managers	March 2024
Continue to develop and grow partnership working with the NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) to improve services and outcomes for residents and employees in line with the One Coventry Plan and ICB People Strategy	Create interventions to support the organisation with right people in the right place at the right time	Workforce Planning & Apprenticeship Lead     Employee Relations Lead     Employee Engagement & Talent Lead	Delivery of joint project work	March 2025

Our aim is to SUSTAIN	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Continue to embed the Council's Employee Engagement Plan which provides a mechanism for a strong employee voice, which celebrates and embeds our One Coventry Values	Embedding of the One Coventry Values, cultural change which will support the delivery of the One Coventry Plan	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     People & Culture Team	Employee engagement survey feedback	Ongoing
To ensure organisational compliance in Statutory and Mandatory training across the Council	To have a workforce that has the right skills to meet legislative requirements and challenges of the organisation	Corporate Learning &     Development Team     HR Digital Team	Achieve 85% compliance	Annually
Create a culture of open and honest communication, to enable a strong employee voice to encourage and drive two-way communication	Enhanced communication tools such as the Staff App, monthly employee newsletter, new starter surveys, leaver surveys and employee engagement surveys	Employee Engagement & Talent Team     Communications Team     Employee Networks     Trade Union colleagues	Improved employee survey feedback for leavers, new starters     Positive employee engagement survey feedback	January 2024

# Commitments - Agile and Flexible Working

Our aim is to INTRODUCE	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Creation of job families which will group jobs with common features, with each job family containing a number of levels, each reflecting different job outputs, skills, knowledge, and experience	Provide greater clarity of career and the pay structure	Trade Union Colleagues     Managers/Employees	All roles being identified and confirmed within a job family	April 2024

Our aim is to SUSTAIN	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Agile and flexible working	To continue to build on being an agile and flexible workforce. Working in an agile way will become the "norm"	Managers     Communications Team     Trade Union Colleagues	Continued review of our policy / procedure and toolkit – feedback and benchmarking	Ongoing

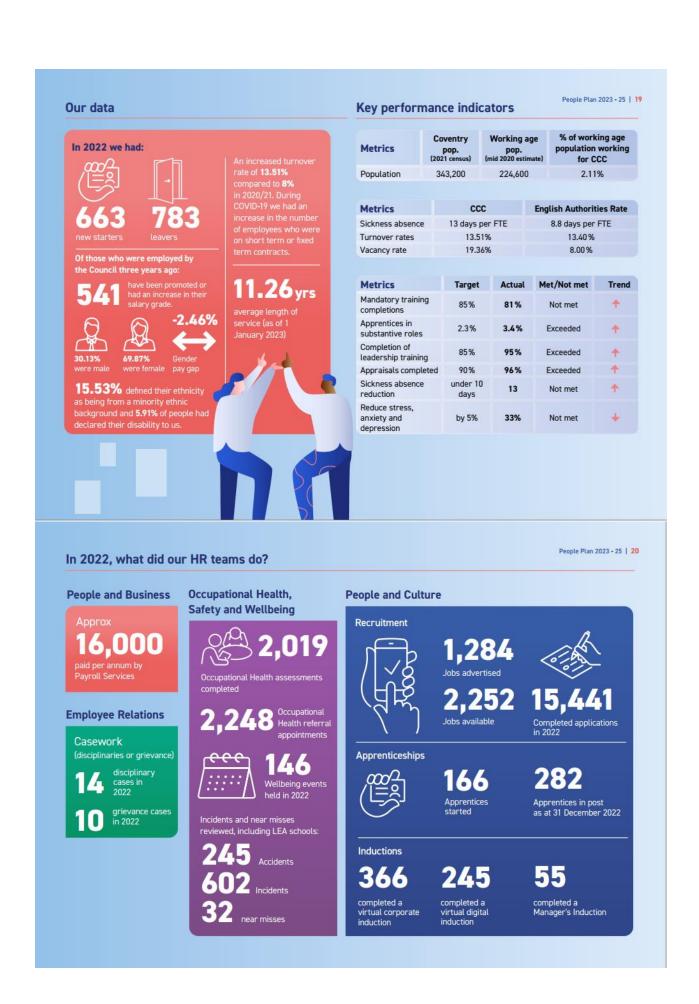
### Commitments - Digital HR

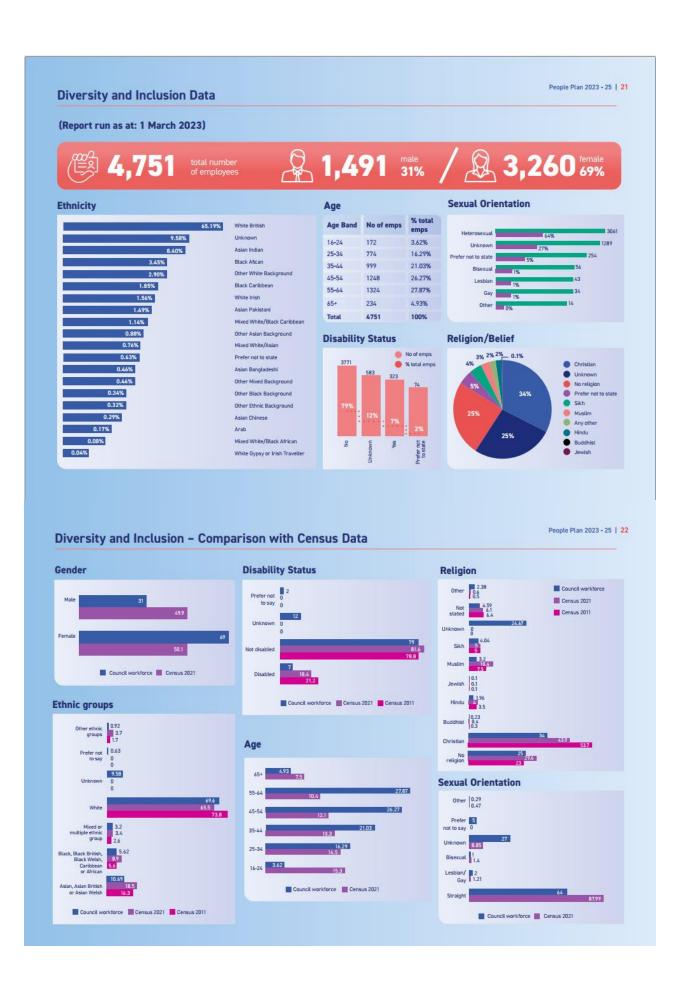
Our aim is to INTRODUCE	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Improve appraisal and talent management system	A better and integrated method to undertake appraisal and introduce talent management     Ability to review the D&I aspects	People & Culture Team     HR Digital Team	Improvements made to the system	March 2025
To streamline the leavers process for employees and managers	Clear and efficient processes for employees and managers Greater consistency across the organisation Reduction in overpayments	People and Culture Team Payroll Team Resourcing Team HR Business Partners (HRBPs) ICT and Digital Team HR Digital Team	Improved leaver survey feedback     Reduction in overpayments	July 2023
For payroll to meet the quality standard ISO 9001 for its processes and procedures	Become more efficient, continuously improve and leading to increased customer satisfaction	Payroll Team     External Accreditation company	Working to the standards	March 2024

Our aim is to GROW	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Embed the new operational tool for all aspects of workforce reporting including diversity into the organisation  Develop HR Data Warehouse to include workforce analytics for Senior Managers and Business Alerts for specific tasks	Provide data to enable evidenced based decisions and informed actions.     Support strategic decisions in relation to current and future workforce.     Enable managers to be alerted to complete specific tasks in relation to their employees.	HR Digital Team ICT HR Team Members Service Users / Representatives	Feedback from users	June 2023
To launch and embed the revised e-learning platform for employees and managers	Improved access and useability for all employees undertaking online training	Corporate Learning &     Development Team	Training survey feedback	July 2023
Improve and where possible digitalise other HR processes, including but not limited to the probation process	Easier streamlined processes that link policy, payroll, and manager responsibilities	Trade Union Colleagues Transformation Team / ICT Digital Team(s) HR Digital Team	Implementing and embedding new ways     of working     Reduction of paper-based activities	January 2024

Our aim is to SUSTAIN	Outcome - what will this achieve?	Who will help us to achieve this?	How will we measure our success?	Timescale
Digitisation of the payroll operation through use of technology to enable improved digital processes and procedures	Reduce the time taken to administer payroll operations for both user and payroll     Streamline processes	<ul> <li>Zellis (IT supplier)</li> <li>HR Digital Team</li> <li>Payroll Team</li> <li>ICT &amp; Digital Team(s)</li> </ul>	Increase in time efficiency     Reduction in errors and manual processes	March 2024







# Agenda Item 5



# **Briefing note**

To: Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board 1

Date: 6th July 2023

Subject: Corporate Learning and Development Report 2022 - 2023

### 1 Purpose of the Note

1.1 To provide Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board 1 with a report which sets out the Council's Corporate Learning and Development activity between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and associated costs.

### 2 Recommendations

2.1 That Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board 1 supports the ongoing work and achievements to deliver the actions set out within the People Plan 2023 – 2025 by providing a comprehensive learning and development programme, that continues to support employees across the organisation, to gain additional skills to deliver the One Coventry Plan and provide continuous professional development opportunities.

### 3 Background

- 3.1 One of the key priorities within our People Plan 2023 2025 is to develop internal talent to enable us to meet our strategic priorities and improve the retention of our workforce.
- 3.2 The Learning and Development team identifies the varied development needs of the workforce, which are informed by the strategic objectives in the One Coventry Plan, through a number of ways; appraisal completions, evaluation reports, pulse surveys, HR case work, direct engagement with managers and employees, digital surveys, leavers feedback, Trade Unions, Employee Network engagement, and benchmarking against other Local Authorities. The team ensure we have relevant, diverse, and effective opportunities for all employees to improve their knowledge and skills which can then make a difference to the lives of the people in Coventry and support and improve outcomes for our communities.
- 3.3 Training is commissioned by following the Council's Procurement and Commissioning process to ensure the training is value for money, of excellent quality and that public money is spent in line with its wider community strategy around the economy, society, and the environment.

### 4 Corporate Learning and Development

### 4.1 Corporate Learning and Development Budget

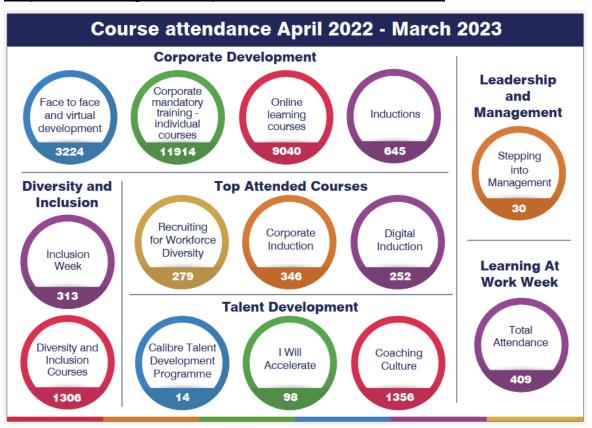
The training and development budget is set annually, with the allocation for 2022 – 2023 being £79,066.00. The spend was £67,385.00. The budget allocation for 2023/24 is £59,297.

The Learning and Development provided to the Council's employees includes statutory and mandatory training, as well as training which enables the Council to meet its statutory obligations. These development opportunities are provided to enhance existing knowledge and skills as well as responding to training, education and development initiatives arising from local, regional, and/or national government.

Where possible, the Apprenticeship Levy is used to enable the workforce to gain a range of formal qualifications. These qualifications can range from a level 2 through to level 7. A detailed paper on the use of the Apprenticeship Levy will be tabled at Scrutiny Board 1 in September 2023.

The 2022 – 2023 budget helped to deliver the following comprehensive range of development programmes.

### 4.2 Corporate Learning & Development Outcomes – 2022 – 2023.



The cost of these development programmes can be found in Appendix 1.

### 4.3 Marketing and Promotion

Corporate Learning and Development opportunities are promoted internally using the intranet, updates to managers through Managers Talk, and using the Council's TV screens. The Corporate L&D offer is also circulated further to frontline

employees, who do not have access to a laptop, via the One Coventry Newsletter which is attached to their payslips, the Staff App and the Corporate Learning and Development Hub.

Managers receive a personal email promoting upcoming courses so that they can share the opportunities with their teams. Targeted teams are encouraged where there are low bookings to ensure the courses are full to ensure value for money.

The Corporate Learning and Development Lead attends Director Management Team meetings, One Coventry Leadership Team (OCLT) meetings, Extended Leadership Team (ELT) meetings and is a member of the Council's Lifelong Learning Steering Group (LLSG) which is a joint formal meeting between Council officers and Trade Union Learning Representatives which takes place every six weeks to discuss and plan the learning and development requirements of employees.

# 4.4 Ensuring access to training for all employees.

The Corporate Learning and Development Team creates opportunities for development for all of our employees, throughout their career with the Council, to ensure that everyone has access to reach their full potential.

Training attendance is currently monitored and analysed by protected characteristics as set out within the Council's Workforce Diversity & Inclusion Strategy. To ensure that we are fully inclusive we have decided to monitor the take up of training in relation to job role, grade and work location and should we find that any particular cohort of employees, for example frontline employees, have not put themselves forward for training we actively encourage them to do so.

#### 4.5 Learning at Work Week

Learning and Development delivered the Council's first Learning at Work Week in October 2022 which was very successful, the aim was to promote Coventry as a Learning Organisation. The L&D Team worked together with our Trade Union Learning Representatives and other Partners across the Council including, ICT, Adult Education, Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing and Libraries. The Learning at Work Week provided the ideal opportunity for employees to access a range of development sessions throughout the week. The majority of the sessions available were delivered in-house by Council employees.

The external providers who were commissioned were chosen for their particular expertise and niche delivery of topics that were a priority for the Council. These included:

- Financial Wellbeing
- Making Difficult Conversations Easier
- Managing you People
- Imposter Syndrome

Learning at Work Week enabled 409 attendees to access 15 different workshops, which were delivered at various times during the day and evening and within a variety of different Council buildings across the city to ensure as much accessibility as possible.

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Attendance at events was as follows:

Event	No. of Participants
Apprenticeship Drop-in Session	4
Bringing your Values to Life	18
British Sign Language Workshop	10
Coaching Culture	17
Digital Skills Workshop	8
Financial Wellbeing Workshop	37
Getting to Know your Networks	5
Healthy Eating and the Impact on Wellbeing	21
Imposter Syndrome Training	49
Making Difficult Conversations Easier	53
Managing your People	20
Mental Health First Aid	74
Mental Health for Men	17
Mindfulness	46
Presentation Skills	30
Total	409

Analysis of the attendance at Learning at Work Week enabled us to understand who was accessing the training. It was encouraging to see the findings established that the week was most popular with employees who were grade 5.

## 4.6 Corporate Learning and Development Online Hub



In February 2023, our new corporate learning and development online offer, and hub was launched. This is organised under 6 themes to make it easier to review the opportunities by category and see the development available.

The Hub is a place for all learning and development. It was produced after significant research and benchmarking against other organisations and offers a free suite of development opportunities within each of the learning tiles.

Some of the opportunities on offer, which are all free of charge, are:

- Open University Modules
- Local Digital Offer
- Ted Talks

- Articles and research
- Management Individual Assessment
- Personal Development Plan
- Mathematics, English and Computer Skills
- Microsoft Office 365 learning

Our Learning Hub has been accessed 1442 times since its launch in February 2023. Further work to implement a bespoke element on the Staff App for frontline employees, with no laptops, is in progress.

# 5 Learning and Development outcomes from Appraisals

5.1 The learning and development needs of our employees are discussed within the annual Appraisal process. For 2023 – 2024 the development needs will be aligned to six key themes: Leadership and Management, Professional Development, Digital Skills, Apprenticeship Levy Qualifications, Corporate Statutory and Mandatory Training and Diversity and Inclusion. This encourages managers and employees to discuss development needs and aspirations throughout their one to ones and appraisals. The themes then inform the corporate development offer. Improving access to development throughout the employee life cycle can support growing our own talent for the future and employees who feel valued will remain engaged with the organisation.

# 6 Talent Development

# 6.1 I Will Accelerate Programme

As part of the Council's commitment to Diversity and Inclusion the Council committed to three talent development programmes which are being targeted at the three cohorts of employees who are under-represented at leadership level, (including senior leadership) within the Council, as informed by our workforce data. I Will Accelerate is a positive action programme that took place in 2022 as a series of 3 interactive career webinars for employees from minority ethnic backgrounds.

#### 6.2 Calibre Talent Management Programme

The Calibre programme which was also a positive action programme was targeted at employees with a disability, who are neurodiverse or have a long term physical or mental health condition. The programme was also launched in 2022 and was open to employee regardless of grade. In addition to the main workshops, the 14 participants who took part were paired with mentors from our Extended Leadership Team to further their development and were also required to complete a personal project.

The programme has been valuable to all participants who have shared their experiences at a graduation event in April 2023 and also with the Lifelong Learning Steering Group and the Diversity & Inclusion Trade Union Working Group.

Participants have raised awareness of some of the barriers they face as employees with a disability within the Council, to help drive sustainable culture change. The success of this programme has led to a change to the Council's approach whereby the funding for reasonable adjustment has become centralised and passite of

additional training courses for managers has been commissioned. The projects completed will help to inform the new Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2024 – 2027.

# 6.3 <u>Coaching Culture Platform</u>

Coaching Culture is a digital self-development platform which aims to help establish a supportive coaching culture within the organisation, by improving the coaching capability of employees and managers, through a series of exciting bite-sized online modules.

The Coaching Culture platform is accessible through a range of different devices including laptops, tablets, and mobile phones and is open to all. The platform consists of two different elements: Mindset and Lessons.

The 'Mindset' modules tool colleagues to conduct a short self-assessment on each module that asks searching questions to identify how they behave and respond to different situations. Based on the responses in each 'Mindset' module, colleagues are provided with a personalised outcome. The 'Lessons' modules aim to equip managers and supervisors with the coaching skills required to coach their teams effectively and enable better coaching conversations within the workplace.

During 2022 – 2023 there have been 1356 modules completed. The Council was able to purchase this at a reduced cost due to our West Midlands Coaching Pool subscription via West Midlands Employers.

The platform offers modules based on a range of subjects, some of these are:

- Growth Mindset
- Positive Attitude
- Change Readiness
- Emotional Intelligence

# 7 Diversity and Inclusion Events

#### 7.1 National Inclusion Week

In September 2022, the Workforce Diversity and Inclusion team facilitated National Inclusion Week. This involved 8 events, open to all Council employees, on topics including Civility Saves Lives, Neurodiversity 101, Hidden Disabilities and LGBT+ Inclusion. These sessions were recorded and are available on the D&I Intranet homepage for employees to watch on demand. We will mark National Inclusion Week again in 2023. This year we aim to increase attendance across events and monitor uptake across all service areas.

Attendance at events was as follows:

Event	No. of Participants
LGBT+ Inclusion	25
Civility Saves Lives	35
Hidden Disabilities	44
Fireside Chat with John Amaechi	97
Neurodiversity 101	70

Financial Wellbeing	15
British Sign Language	4
Bystander Intervention	23
Total	313

# 7.2 <u>Diversity and Inclusion Courses</u>

Coventry City Council, like other Council's in the region, became early adopters of the Race Equality Code in 2022. Diversity and Inclusion training was introduced to OCLT in March 2022, followed by two sessions delivered to ELT in June and September 2022. Since October 2022 this training has been delivered across the Council to several teams, including Adult Education, Housing and Homelessness, Legal Services, Procurement, Election and Members, Regulatory Services, Transformation, People and Culture, Children's Services, Employee Relations, Public Health, Business, Investment and Culture, Customer Services and Adult Social Care.

The training was delivered by Dr Sophie Pitt, an educational psychologist within the SEND & Specialist Services team. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive with participants stating that the sessions have inspired thoughts about how we deliver services across the City.

## 8 Online Learning

Coventry City Council has a suite of online e-learning courses that are provided by MeLearning, an external company who supply the Council's online learning platform.

# 8.1 Corporate Statutory and Mandatory Online Training

To ensure that all Council employees are aware of their legal responsibilities, every employee must complete the following statutory and mandatory courses within one month of starting their career at the Council:

- Health and Safety in the Workplace
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Equality and Diversity
- Safeguarding Awareness
- Data Protection and Information Security

These courses can be completed via the online platform, or for those employees without access to laptops, a range of alternative training material is provided via pdf or videos covering the content. Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 there have been 11914 completions of these courses. The focus for 2023 is to deliver face to face statutory and mandatory training at Whitley Depot in order to increase the number of completions.

#### 8.2 Other Online Learning Courses

MeLearning provide a range of other online learning courses of which 9040 courses were completed between 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023.

The top completed courses include:

- Manual Handling
- Safeguarding Against Radicalisation The Prevent Duty
- Conflict Management
- Food Safety and Hygiene Essentials
- Resilience
- Personal Safety: Lone Worker
- Handling Violence and Aggression at Work
- Communication Skills

# 9 Leadership and Management

#### 9.1 <u>Stepping into Management</u>

Coventry City Council launched its new Stepping into Management Programme in 2022 with 30 participants and feedback has been excellent. This programme offers new, existing, and aspiring first-line supervisors and managers the opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge to support them as our managers and leaders for the future.

The programme has six modules:

- Introduction to First Line Management
- Managing in a One Coventry Way
- People Management Skills
- Managing Effective Conversations
- Developing your Team
- Evaluation of the Impact

The programme is delivered by the Corporate Learning and Development Lead and an external expert in the field. It is aligned to the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) level 3 but is not yet accredited however we are in the process of gaining this accreditation.

#### 10 Future Plans

#### 10.1 Corporate Learning and Development Priorities for 2023 - 2024

Learning and development access will need to evolve with new technologies and be more accessible to everyone throughout their careers.

It is important going forward to consider the needs of all employees within learning and development and explore a way for everyone to access this throughout their employee journey at the Council. This will support and enable employees to meet the changing needs of their role and be able to meet the requirements within our One Coventry Council Plan.

A range of new programmes are currently being scoped and will commence during 2023 – 2024. Appendix 2 shows the costs anticipated for upcoming programmes.

#### 10.2 Amplify - LGBTQIA Talent Development Programme

Following the success of talent development programmes, a new initiative is being launched for employees who identify as LGBTQIA.

One of the key aims of the Council's Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-2023, is to proactively assist the career development and progression of employees from under-represented groups. Workforce data shows that our employees who identify as LGBTQIA are under-represented at leadership and management levels across the organisation.

As a result, the Council will once again be taking positive action, utilising Section 158 of the Equality Act 2010, to deliver a new talent development programme called Amplify – be the change.

The programme will be launched in September 2023 and be delivered as six 90-minute interactive workshops.

#### 10.3 Tackling Burnout – Strategies for Men in the Workplace

Research informs us that 3 out of 4 suicide victims are men, 85% of homeless people are men, and 2.7 million men in the UK are prescribed anti-depressants. To ensure that we are providing the right psychological support for our male workforce we are currently offering a new programme called 'Tackling Burnout – Strategies for Men in the Workplace, for men who might be struggling to find a good work/life balance.

Our Learning at Work Week attendance analytics found that men were underrepresented during the week of learning with only 14% of our male employees engaging in learning compared with 32% of men in the workforce at that time. The two sessions delivered were popular, resulting in both sessions being full to the 40place capacity within two days of the programme being made available. The feedback has been excellent.

Further sessions for men, covering new topics are currently being scoped which includes a number of face-to-face sessions.

#### 10.4 Disability Inclusion and Reasonable Adjustments Training for Managers

Following on from the successful Calibre Programme the need for this course has been highlighted, therefore 3 sessions have been booked to support managers across the Council to gain a better understanding. The training will support managers to feel confident to have effective and appropriate conversations about disability and reasonable adjustments. The sessions include policies, upskilling on knowledge and use of the personal adjustment passport.

#### 10.5 AWARE Programme

An AWARE Programme (Appreciative, Wise, Active, Resilient, Emotionally Intelligent) for middle managers will be launched as a pilot session in September 2023. There will be places for 15 managers, and it is designed to be a combination of online learning and an action learning set after each of the 5 modules.

The programme will be delivered by external facilitators and will include the following topics:

- Be Appreciative look for the good
- Be Wise know yourself and your organisation
- Be Active explore effective communication
- Be Resilient bounce back
- Be Emotionally Intelligent feel personally and socially competent

#### 10.6 Climate change

The Learning and Development team are currently exploring training to support our One Coventry Council Plan ambitions for tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. We will be working very closely with the Head of Climate Change and Sustainability and the Strategic Lead for Green Futures to ensure that we have an offer which supports the Council's Climate Change and Green agendas.

Once the relevant courses have been agreed and the procurement process has been completed, training will be commissioned and will commence in later in year

# 10.7 Managing in a One Coventry Way

Building on the success of the module Managing in a One Coventry Way, which sits within the Stepping into Management Programme, this course has been commissioned for other managers across the Council. By strengthening the leadership and management capability of our workforce it will enable us to address some of the challenges we face as an organisation and be in a better position to deliver our One Coventry ambitions through our One Coventry Council Plan.

The aim of this course is to understand how to effectively manage employees and a team, in alignment with the strategic objectives of an organisation within a valueled framework.

# 10.8 Coventry Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC)

Coventry City Council were successful in its bid for £5 million pounds (over 5 years) to deliver a Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) across the city in partnership with a number of partners from the University of Warwick, Coventry University, and voluntary sector organisations across Coventry. The Coventry HDRC is focused on boosting the Council's capacity and capability to do high-quality research to tackle health inequalities. On this journey Coventry City Council will develop the necessary infrastructure for research to take place across the Council, the project will run until 2027.

# 10.9 Other training that will be delivered in 2023 – 2024

- Women in the workplace
- LGBTQ+ awareness training for the wider organisation
- Inclusion Week in 2023
- Learning at Work Week in Spring 2024

Karen Moir Corporate Learning and Development Lead People and Culture 6th July 2023 024 7697 2355 karen.moir@coventry.gov.uk

Appendix 1 - Corporate Learning & Development Events 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Provider	Costs	Description
External Contractor	£12,031.00	Corporate Learning & Development
External Contractor	£15,228.00	Diversity & Inclusion Development
External Contractor	£32,416.00	Talent Development
External Contractor	£7,710.00	Job Evaluation Training
TOTAL Spend 10150 - Budget £79,066.00	£67,385.00	Saving £11,681.00

Appendix 2 - Corporate Learning and Development Priorities for 2023-2024

Provider	Costs	Description
External Contractor	£23,375.00	Corporate Learning & Development
External Contractor	£4,800.00	Diversity & Inclusion Development
External Contractor	£25,000.00	Talent Development
Projection 10150 - Budget £59,297.00	£53,175.00	

# Agenda Item 6

SB1 Work Programme 2023/24

Last updated 27th June 2023

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

# 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

- Corporate Learning and Development Report 2022 2023
- Workforce Metrics

# 21st September 2023

- Apprenticeships
- Council Office Accommodation
- Commercial Investments/ Income Generation

# 16th November 2023

- Reserves
- Capital Programme

# 11th January 2024

- Medium Term Financial Strategy

# 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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# 21st March 2024

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# 2023/24

- Equality and Diversity Interview Panels
- Coventry Connects
- Equal Pay Claim
- City Centre South (Joint with SB3)

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
6 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	- Corporate Learning and Development Report 2022 - 2023	To scrutinise training opportunities and use of the training budget.	Cllr Brown Grace Haynes
	- Workforce Metrics	To scrutinise the workforce data.	Cllr Brown Susanna Newing
21 <sup>st</sup> September 2023	- Apprenticeships	To receive an update on apprenticeships within CCC including use of the levy.	Cllr Brown Grace Haynes Andy Hyland
	- Council Office Accommodation	Review the usage of Council office space within the context of making savings.	Cllr O'Boyle Cllr Brown Richard Moon
	- Commercial Investments/ Income Generation	To scrutinise the Council's approach to Commercial Investments, income generation and traded services.	Cllr Brown Barry Hastie
16 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	- Reserves	To review the Council Reserves	Cllr Brown Barry Hastie
	- Capital Programme	To consider significant substantial capital programme investments.	Cllr Brown Barry Hastie
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	- Medium Term Financial Strategy	To discuss the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy prior to its approval through the political process. This is an annual item.	Cllr Brown /Barry Hastie/ Paul Jennings
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	-		
21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	-		

# SB1 Work Programme 2023/24

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
2023/24	- Equality and Diversity – Interview Panels	As a follow up to the item on Recruitment & Selection and Tribepad the Council's Applicant Tracking System, to review the analysis of the outcome of increasing the diversity of interview panels.	Cllr Brown Susanna Newing Grace Haynes
	- Coventry Connects	To include Customer Service channels including the feedback loop for customers and councillors and continuous improvement.	Cllr Brown/ Cllr Hetherton Adrienne Bellingeri/ Paul Ward
	- Equal Pay Claim	To consider the financial impact of the equal pay claim.	Cllr Brown Susana Newing
	- City Centre South (Joint with SB3)	To scrutinise the funding and progress of the City Centre South Scheme.	Cllr Brown Cllr O'Boyle Barry Hastie/ Richard Moon

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