

Briefing note

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

Subject: Workforce Metrics.

1 Purpose of the Note

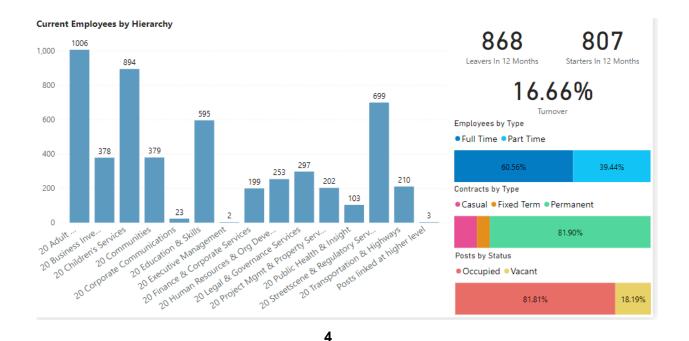
- 1.1 This report provides the current workforce analytics from numbers employed, turnover, starters, leavers, sickness absence, right through to agency workers. Where possible historical data has been included for comparative purposes. Although it should be noted this data will include years impacted 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^{th of} 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
 Zenith 			etc:
 Tusker 			
 Knowles 			
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

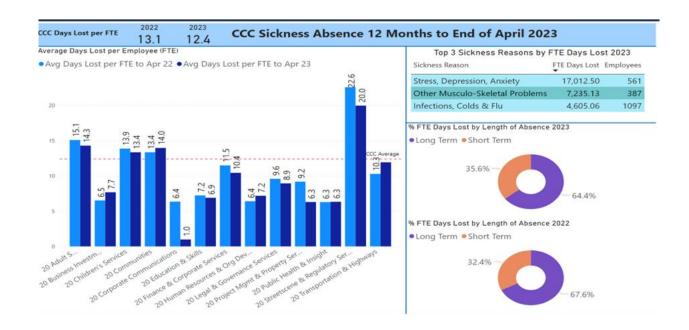
The majority of those employees who access relocation are based in Children's Services which is reflective of the work undertaken to recruit to social work and related posts.

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	

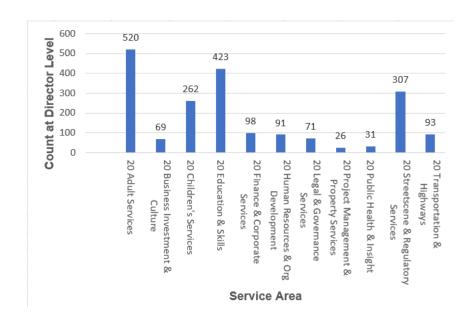
Table 4: intervention	No
External resource	22
Internal resource / counselling service	6
Internal and external resource	9
Holding appts	65

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%	

Agency

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	03
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	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000'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 31st 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 1st 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	

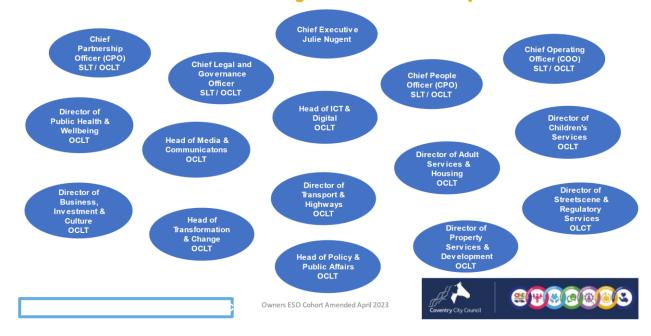
Finally attached for information and completeness is the One Coventry Leadership Team structure chart and the final version of the People Plan 2023-25.

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



Digital HR

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

People and Business

We provide a key function to the organisation, which is to accurately pay employees on a timely basis, and administer the pension scheme.

The service also develops and introduces a wider reward offer which includes an employee assistance programme, a salary sacrifice scheme which gives access to goods and services like cars, computers, saving schemes, charity donations, travel cards etc. These are regularly reviewed for relevance as well as employee preference.

People and Business also manage all the HR systems, data and insight services, including managing the establishment and management of posts. HR operate a range of systems which support managers and employees to work effectively. Our aim is to maximise the benefits, increase use and knowledge, as well to seek to continually improve. Data is a key area of development with all our operational and business reports being recently revised with the next step being to widen local usage and the development of scorecards/KPIs.

People and Culture

Our aim is to ensure there is an 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 and collective relationships in the workplace.

We work across the Council to develop and embed a positive employee relations culture, through developing modernised policies, procedures, and toolkits.

We provide proactive advice, guidance, and support in all aspects of Employee Relations procedures such as disciplinary, grievance, organisational change, and conflict resolutions. We also support consultation processes working closely with trade union colleagues.

We are aiming for a positive climate of employee relations including enabling employees to speak up, creating high levels of employee involvement. The team's work over the next People Plan reflects this.

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 obligations.

The services include preemployment clearance, health assessments, counselling support, debriefing, mediation, healthy lifestyle screening and advice, mental wellbeing clinics, training, accident and incident reporting and investigation, audit, inspection and monitoring as well as health and safety advice.

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
- Introducing local and organisational recognition awards
- Updating recruitment marketing and application process to maintain relevancy in the marketplace
- New management information and Insight reporting
- Continuing to improve our mental health support
- Investing to improve our health and safety support

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
- ♠ 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 efficiency
- New appraisal and talent management system in place
- Gold Thrive Award

We will be sustaining our work to strive to:

Maintain working in partnership with Trade Union colleagues

EAR 3 2025

- 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 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.



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Our colleagues

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

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 Kiosk	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 ill 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	 We will see a noticeable improvement across the 4 key principles of the Code; Reporting, Action, Composition and Education 	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	 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 	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	 Monitoring that both Managers and HR teams are meeting the standards set out in the SLA. 	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	 Trade Union Colleagues Managers/Employees 	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	 Zellis (IT supplier) HR Digital Team Payroll Team ICT & Digital Team(s) 	Increase in time efficiency Reduction in errors and manual processes	March 2024





Working age % of working age Coventry population working for CCC pop. (2021 census) pop. (mid 2020 estimate) 343,200 224,600 2.11%

Metrics	ccc	English Authorities Rate
Sickness absence	13 days per FTE	8.8 days per FTE
Turnover rates	13.51%	13.40%
Vacancy rate	19.36%	8.00%

Metrics	Target	Actual	Met/Not met	Trend
Mandatory training completions	85%	81%	Not met	+
Apprentices in substantive roles	2.3%	3.4%	Exceeded	+
Completion of leadership training	85%	95%	Exceeded	+
Appraisals completed	90%	96%	Exceeded	+
Sickness absence reduction	under 10 days	13	Not met	+
Reduce stress, anxiety and depression	by 5%	33%	Not met	+

Metrics Population

In 2022, what did our HR teams do?

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People and Business

16,000

paid per annum by Payroll Services

Employee Relations

Casework

Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing

People and Culture

Recruitment

Apprenticeships

166

Apprentices in post as at 31 December 2022

Inductions

366

completed a Manager's Induction

26

An increased turnover rate of 13.51% compared to 8% in 2020/21. During COVID-19 we had an increase in the number of employees who were on short term or fixed

Our data

In 2022 we had:

-2.46%

15.53% defined their ethnicity

declared their disability to us

Incidents and near misses reviewed, including LEA schools:

Apprentices started

virtual corporate induction

completed a virtual digital induction

