

Subject:	Council Achievements 2022/23	Status:	For Publication		
Report to:	Council	Date:	22 March 2023		
Report of:	Acting Chief Executive	Lead member:	Council Leader		
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>		
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required:	Yes/No	Attached:	Yes/No	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment:	Required:	Yes/No	Attached:	Yes/No	
Contact Officer:	Adam Allen	Telephone:	01706 252492		
Email:	adamallen@rossendalebc.gov.uk				

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1. That Council note the summary of achievements for the past financial year.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Council has a 3 year Corporate Plan that establishes the priorities of the Council.
- Each year the annual Report is presented to Council and this updates Council on the previous years actions and establishes corporate actions for the following year.
- This report is in addition to the annual report and it provides bulleted highlights of the achievements in the past year that are not part of the corporate actions.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The current Corporate Plan is in its second year and a full review of the progress in relation to the plan will be presented to Council in June 2023. This review is an annual report and it reports on the progress of all corporate actions and corporate projects.
- 3.2. This report also establishes the coming year's corporate actions with Council.
- 3.3. The Council does undertake a number of actions as "Business as Usual" or ad hoc actions that arise in the year. This short report highlights in bullet form these achievements, which are celebrated with Staff and through publications such as the annual Council Tax leaflet.
- 3.4. Investment does need to be considered in conjunction with the current threat facing the leisure sector.

4. LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS 2022/24

1. A £17.9m Levelling Up bid was submitted in the summer, extensive follow up work with DLUHC has been undertaken to secure substantial funding for Rossendale outside of the Levelling Up scheme.
2. We have converted the first buildings on Deardengate in Haslingden

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3. Rossendale Works helped 70 people into work placements and 38 into jobs
4. City Valley rail link bid submitted in September and it is hoped this will allow for the next stage business case to be developed.
5. Focus in Operations throughout recent months delivering real improvements, for example:
 - Fly-tipping pick up reduced to 5-6 days
 - Town centre caretaker roles filled
 - More town centre litter bins being installed
 - 'Check Before You Chuck' recycling project reduced landfill waste in pilot area by 6%
6. Good enforcement work by PPU resulting in 13 prosecutions through the courts and multiple Fixed penalties for fly tipping and abandoned vehicles. We also established a new contract to issue FPN's for litter and dog fouling.
7. Rawtenstall's Britain in Bloom gold award in July
8. Completed our Masterplans for Victoria Park and Whitaker
9. Agreed a long term Vision for Leisure and Wellbeing facilities. Securing external funding for tennis courts, 3g football pitches and Skate Parks, Play Areas and a Pump track.
10. Continued our Health and Wellbeing work, establishing our Rossendale Connected Place Health and Wellbeing Board and community groups to work on improving mental health and reduce poverty.
11. Good strides on climate change work:
 - Developed Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document
 - Upgraded Council Buildings to be more energy efficient
 - Conversion of all operational vehicles to Hydro Vegetable Oil reducing emissions by 90%
 - Mayoral and pool car are now fully electric
 - Rossendale Forest planted over 8,000 trees in its first year
12. Facilitated 400+ new homes being constructed (following successful planning applications and 250+ planning applications validated by the Planning Team)
13. We processed 38 disabled facilities grants (with a further 100+ applications in the pipeline)
14. New Marl Pits running track (part funded by the council)
15. Managed the May elections and 2 by-elections
16. Communities Team working with voluntary organisations and wider work around cost of living pressures
17. New unified communications/telephony application implemented in the Summer
18. Attracted £2.9 Million investment into our town centres and open spaces through the Shared Prosperity Fund.
19. We paid out £12.5 million in housing benefit and £4.8 million in council tax support, with 192,000 benefit transactions processed.
20. We distributed the Energy Rebate to 27,966 Rossendale households worth £4.3 Million.
21. Supported 348 people looking for work and helped 94 of these into full time employment
22. Emptied approximately 3 million bins and cleared over 1500 fly tips and we have fined those that do fly tip
23. Prevented 348 families from becoming homeless
24. Processed over 700 planning applications
25. Supported 87 community events and help 75 Ukrainian Families to settle in Rossendale.

5. RISKS

- 5.1. There are no risks associated with this report. The report is for information only.

6. FINANCE

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

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7. LEGAL

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

8. POLICY AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific policy or equality implications associated with this report.

9. REASONS FOR DECISION

To highlight the achievements of the Council in the past financial year.