

Report to	Policy & Resources Committee
Date	27 February 2018
By	Performance and Projects Manager
Title of Report (Note)	Quarter 3 Performance Report 2017-18

Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Receive the Quarter 3 performance report.**
- 2) Consider if it wishes to make any recommendations to Officers arising from the report.**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on performance during Quarter 3 of 2017-18.
- 1.2 The SDNPA as a publicly accountable body, is responsible for monitoring its performance. The Policy and Resources Committee has terms of reference which include *“To monitor and review the performance, including financial performance, of the Authority in the context of its business delivery, and the management and maintenance of the Authority’s assets in accordance with the Authority’s agreed budget, Corporate Plan and other approved plans, and make recommendations for changes as appropriate”*.
- 1.3 Members are recommended to note the update, noting particularly the position of the strategic fund and to consider if there are any recommendations to staff as a result of the performance information provided.

2. Performance reporting

- 2.1 An overview of performance for each of the 4 objectives in the Corporate Plan is at **Appendix I**. An overall RAG status has been used for overall performance against the four areas of work, strategy, partnerships, projects and core work. Notable successes and areas requiring further work are listed for each. There are no significant exceptions apart from some delays to the development of strategic work relating to the review of the Partnership Management Plan.
- 2.2 Planning performance remains good with the speed of decision making continuing to be in excess of Government targets with 89% of statutory cases in the quarter determined within the Government’s target time (89% also in Q2). Appeal performance for Q1 to Q3 (there are too few appeals in an individual quarter to form a reliable sample) is good with 66% of appeals dismissed against 67% dismissed in the 2016/17 financial year.
- 2.3 The speed of validation of planning applications remains a concern but has improved from just 53% of cases validated within 5 days in Q1 and Q2 to 67% in Q3. Validation performance will remain a focus of attention. Details of Planning Performance 2012/17 are detailed in **Appendix 2**.

3. Projects

- 3.1 The RAG (Red, Amber and Green) status shows if a project is on track or not. The RAG status is entered manually by staff and is based on an assessment including key deliverables and achievement of targets and risk as well as whether the budget is on or off track. The arrows within the coloured sections show the direction of travel from the previous Quarter.

↓	Downward arrow indicates that performance is lower or worse than the previous reporting period
—	A dash indicates no change from the previous reporting period
↑	Upward arrow indicates that performance is higher or better than the previous reporting period

- 3.2 There are 13 projects, with funding from the Strategic Fund in delivery, 6 are SDNPA led. No projects were completed during the quarter, it is likely that the broadband project will close in the next quarter. Information about the status of this project is being sought from the Coast to Capital Local Economic Partnership (LEP). No projects are red status, 3 of the 6 SDNPA led projects are amber and 6 are green. Of the 7 partnership led projects, 4 are green and 3 are amber.
- 3.3 2 new allocations from the strategic fund to support projects were approved during the quarter. £25,000 was agreed to continue funding for the project Officer for the Brighton ChaMP Project for one year to 2020. The project is delivering well and in order not to lose momentum in this area of work OMT agreed to fund the post for a year after the end of the existing project, in order to support the development of a further project with relevant Water Companies to continue and enhance this work.
- 3.4 £24,258 over 2 years from 2018/19 was approved by OMT to continue the project management support for the work relating to the Active Access project. The funding covers the cost of the time the Cycling and Walking Officer will spend on delivering the project for two years
- 3.5 As a result of projects that are now not going ahead as anticipated, or from underspends, a significant amount of money is being returned to the Strategic Fund. In total £621,941. This is made up of:
- The £150,000 per year until 2021/2 allocated to the Big Chalk project (£600,000 in total).
 - £10,000 that was allocated to seek alternative funding for the Big Chalk project has also been returned to the fund.
- 3.6 Details of projects are in **Appendix 3** as is a progress report on the project in delivery.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 End of year and Q4 data will be reported to this Committee in May 2018 along with progress against the SDNPA improvement plan. The annual review will also be produced to share delivery over the last year in a more accessible format.
- 4.2 If the subject of the report is a project, please include a brief summary of its committee history/background so Members are aware of how and when the funding was agreed.]

5. Other Implications

Implication	Yes*/No
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	No
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	Strategic Fund projects approved in 2017-18 total £61,528, £10,000 has been repurposed. As of the end of December 2017 there was £414,268 unallocated/available in the strategic fund.

How does the proposal represent Value for Money?	Implications of this report in itself do not raise an issue of value for money. However the projects that the organisation has funded are assessed for value for money when they are approved. Where appropriate, this is part of the project approval reports received by the Policy Resources Committee. Projects are evaluated individually for value for money when they finish, they are reported regularly to this Committee.
Are there any Social Value implications arising from the proposal?	No
Have you taken regard of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	Yes – as the subject matter of the report is an update on projects and funding no specific issues arise. Consideration of equalities issues are considered as part of the development of a project where relevant.
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Data Protection implications?	No
Are there any Sustainability implications based on the 5 principles set out in the SDNPA Sustainability Strategy?	No – not directly although as part of the process for developing projects and when they are approved sustainability issues are included as part of the process.

6. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

- 6.1 Robust corporate planning and monitoring of performance are part of the mitigations for our corporate risk about awareness and favourability with decision makers.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
Unforeseen changes to the level of funding provided by relevant Government departments for future years	Likely	Minor	A robust monitoring and project approval system and regular reporting to relevant Committees on projects and the budget available along with a corporate plan which sets clear priorities to support delivery of Partnership Management Plan outcomes.

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Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Q3 Performance overview2. Planning Performance 2012/173. Project progress update
SDNPA Consultees	Chief Executive; Director of Countryside and Policy Management; Director of Planning; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer; Legal Services, Governance and Support Services Manager; Countryside and Policy Managers, Planning and Technical Manager
External Consultees	None
Background Documents	Q2 performance report Appendix 1 Appendix 3