

Top priorities

Continued support to and oversight of Council governance (Democratic Services and Legal)

- Advising the Council (committees, members and officers) on local authority powers and duties, available options, facilitating projects and to carry out its legal work.
- Support propriety and development of the Council's decision-making, scrutiny and administrative processes and help Members to make informed decisions.
- Assist the Monitoring Officer in discharging his functions.
- Supporting the democratic process.
- Helping Members develop their skills and knowledge to better serve the community.

Deliver statutory functions (Licensing, Freedom of Information requests, Data Protection)

- Assisting customers run their businesses effectively.
- Contributing to the welfare of residents and visitors.
- Promoting a vibrant and sustainable future.
- Responding within time and in accordance with legal requirements
- Ensuring our resident's personal data is handled appropriately.

Protecting the Council's interests

- Considering and helping advise on reputational impacts of decisions / actions.
- Ensuring that Council commitments are appropriately documented.
- Securing the commitment of others.

Challenges and issues

IT software changes (Licensing, Democratic Services and Legal)

- New case management software for Licensing and Legal.
- Using Modern.Gov and SpaceManager (meeting management) to its fullest capacity.

Review of and possible changes to Council's governance arrangements

- Resource implications in assisting in review (Overview and Think Tank).
- Securing what is right for the Council.
- Implementing and resourcing any changes.

Drive to reduce costs impacting on delivery

- The need to deliver savings is clear.
- Any staffing reductions likely to impact on ability to deliver service, so need to look to other initiatives.

Budget

Budget allocation 19/20 – Governance and Licensing as a whole £931,000

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|-----------------------|------------|
| - Licensing | (£115,690) |
| - Legal | £349,640 |
| - Democratic Services | £602,445 |

- Strategic Lead & MO £297,020

Projected budget 20/21 – no significant changes anticipated.