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Report to:

**Council**

Agenda  
Item:

10(b)(ii)

Meeting Date: 09 January 2018

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder's Report –  
Councillor Dr Les Tickner**

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## **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

The budget reports for 2018/19 to 2022/23 have been considered by the Executive and relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panels, with the Executive issuing its draft Budget Proposals for consultation purposes at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017. The consultation process will end on 15<sup>th</sup> January with feedback being considered by the Executive on 17<sup>th</sup> January, following which the Executive will make final budget recommendations to Council on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

## **ELECTORAL REGISTRATION**

The Annual canvass has been completed and the new electoral register was published 1<sup>st</sup> December as per the Statutory requirements. The register has been supplied to the various national parties and organisations as per the regulations.

Arrangements are being made to run the Dalston Neighbourhood Plan Referendum on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018.

The postal vote Refresh exercise will also be carried in January/ February 2018.

The team are continuing to assist with the work on the Councils Local Government Boundary Commission Review.

## **ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The apprenticeship programme continues to grow and we have had nine apprentices in the last year in various roles across the Authority, two of which are on the advanced apprenticeship programme, the apprentices attended a Team Building day in October and all enjoyed the event. We continue to recruit for apprentices in various roles within the authority.

Skill gate the eLearning programme continues to grow in use and over 3,000 courses have been accessed by employees and members, a drop-in day is planned to take place in January to make colleagues aware of the wider benefits of the service such as recording Continuous Professional Development.

The Celebration of Learning event was a great success with over 100 colleagues attending, The Old Fire Station proved to be a popular venue and this year we introduced 3 awards for outstanding achievement, in total over 58 members of staff achieved a qualification and over 350 colleagues attended some form of corporate training and development. This is in addition to eLearning and department led training.

## **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

Recent counts for information requests (From 14 October – 8 December 2017):

- Environmental Information Regulations requests received - 13
- Environmental Information Regulations requests responded to - 9
- Freedom of Information Act requests received – 108
- Freedom of Information Act requests responded to - 105
- Data Protection Act subject access requests received - 1
- Data Protection Act subject access requests responded to – 1
- Data Protection Act s29/s35 requests received - 3
- Data Protection Act s29/s35 requests responded to – 5