



Cabinet

Tuesday, 13 December 2022

Bingham Improvement Board Update

Report of the Chief Executive

**Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Strategic and Borough-wide Leadership,
Councillor S J Robinson**

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The report of the Bingham Improvement Board was presented to Cabinet in June and to Council in July. It was agreed that an update would be provided six months later. This is that update.
- 1.2. Bingham Town Council considered the Action Plan and progress against it at its meeting of 4 October 2022.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet endorses the progress made and congratulates Bingham Town Council on its commitment to delivering the Action Plan.

3. Reasons for recommendation

Bingham Town Council have clearly made excellent progress against the implementation of the Action Plan that was developed by the Bingham Improvement Board and adopted by the Town Council.

4. Supporting information

- 4.1. At its meeting of 24 May 2022, Bingham Town Council discussed the report of the Bingham Improvement Board and resolved to accept the report and to move forward with implementing the Action Plan, adding the civility and respect poster to the Town Council's website, and supported writing a letter to the MP Robert Jenrick asking him to support Early Day Motion 691, which relates to the conduct of councillors toward town and parish council clerks.
- 4.2. There was a point of clarification noted by the Town Council that HR training had been undertaken after the Standards Committee recommendations were issued and later in the meeting, the Town Council's structure was altered slightly to take on board the comments that the Board had made.

- 4.3. At the RBC Cabinet meeting of 14 June 2022, Cabinet members highlighted the importance of members adhering to the Nolan Principles and remembering that councils are in place to meet community requirements. Members commended the report and thanked the Improvement Board for producing a clear and frank report with a very useful and practical Action Plan.
- 4.4. At the RBC Council meeting of 7 July 2022, Council also commended the report and the work of the Improvement Board.
- 4.5. There was also a request that an update be provided to Council in six months' time to show progress against the accepted Action Plan.
- 4.6. Bingham Town Council took a report to its October Council meeting on progress against the Action Plan. That report is at Appendix A.
- 4.7. It is extremely positive to see the progress made against the Action Plan in Appendix A. In particular, it is a significant improvement that no complaints have been made by Bingham Town Councillors against each other since the Improvement Board report was presented to the Town Council.
- 4.8. Other changes have been made in relation to governance arrangements and meeting structures. Comprehensive training has been offered and undertaken and progress has been made against key projects. Work is underway to set out the Council's strategic plan for its agreed priorities over the short, medium, and longer term.

5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection

As this report is an update on work undertaken by Bingham Town Council since the Bingham Improvement Board completed its report, there are no alternative options to present.

6. Risks and uncertainties

- 6.1. Bingham Town Council appear to be making excellent progress and the strong foundations that are being put in place around governance and respect should stand the Council in good stead for the future.
- 6.2. There are parish council elections due in 2023, so there could be different councillors on the Town Council after this date, but the work of the Bingham Improvement Board is now on record and can be referred back to in the future if required.

7. Implications

7.1. Financial implications

There are no financial implications from this report.

7.2. Legal implications

There are no legal implications from this report.

7.3. Equalities implications

There are no equalities implications from this report.

7.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 implications

There are no S17 implications from this report.

8. Link to corporate priorities

Quality of Life	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Quality of Life priority.
Efficient Services	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Efficient Services priority.
Sustainable Growth	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Sustainable Growth priority.
The Environment	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Environment priority.

9. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet endorses the progress made and congratulates Bingham Town Council on its commitment to delivering on the Action Plan.

For more information contact:	Katherine Marriott Chief Executive 0115 914 8291 kmarriott@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	Report to Cabinet 14 June 2022 "Bingham Improvement Board Report" Report to Council 7 July 2022 "Bingham Improvement Board Report"
List of appendices:	Appendix A – Bingham Town Council Action Plan progress report