# Overview & Scrutiny Committee 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024









# DMBC Improvement & Sustainability Plan









## Improvement & Sustainability Programme (IASP)

#### **Objective**

'Establish the foundations required to assure delivery of Dudley Borough's Vision, Forging a Future for All, through effective Strategy, Governance and Financial Sustainability'.

#### 3 Phases

- Phase 1 (Mobilising)
- Phase 2 (Fit for Purpose)
- Phase 3 (Transformation)
  - Establish urgent financial controls with regular, appropriate monitoring
  - Revise Council Plan to focus on projects which deliver financial sustainability, improved governance, performance management, develop the new target operating model and future service delivery options.









#### Governance

- Independent Improvement & Assurance Board (IAB)
- Internal Delivery Group (IDG)
- Cabinet
- Strategic Executive Board









#### Governance

The Council - approves policy framework and sets the MTFS

The Cabinet – delivery of policy framework

Informal Cabinet (non-decision making)

Spending Controls Group

Project Teams

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee – scrutiny of all executive function (non-decision making)

SEB, meeting as the Internal Delivery Group

Programme Delivery Office









#### IAB - Overview

- To oversee and be assured that the Internal Delivery
  Group are delivering the actions set in the improvement
  plan
- Provide assurance that a programme of sustainable improvements are being developed
- Oversee and be assured that the necessary steps to improve governance across the Council are being made
- Provide external advice, scrutiny, challenge, and expertise
- Provide strategic direction on improvement
- Ensure key decisions are made cognisant of the financial implications and impact on in-year budgets and the long term MTFS









## Value add to the Improvement and Sustainability Programme to date

- IAB have provided expert check and challenge on the governance and pace of the Improvement and Sustainability Programme
- The relationship is underpinned by the following operating principles, which are designed to help maximise their input:
  - Focus: on key issues, plans, actions and impact.
  - Less is more: Concise and analytical information, including data and dates
  - Timely information: recognising that IAB can input to c.70% of the answer, if DMBC is honest about status compared to plans and aspirations.
  - Honesty and integrity: DMBC to demonstrate ambition about aspirations and be honest about currently delivery.
- A rhythm of "IAB feedback: 'One Dudley' response action and impact" is driving the Programme and has enabled:
  - A strategic narrative which reflects the serious nature of the Council's financial position
  - Assurance of the impact of Spending Controls
  - Assurance of forecasts of delivery against 24/25 savings targets







