

ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 28th July, 2015

Present:-

Councillor P Gilby (Chair)

Councillors	Perkins	Councillors	Catt
	Dyke		Sarvent
	Derbyshire		V Diouf
	Simmons		

Donna Cairns, Committee and Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Anita Cunningham, Policy and Scrutiny Officer
Michael Rich, Executive Director

10 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations of interest were received.

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Callan.

12 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked the Policy and Scrutiny Officer and the Committee and Scrutiny Co-ordinators for delivering the scrutiny development session on project groups.

13 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 June, 2015 were presented.

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14 **SCRUTINY MONITORING**

The Committee received the following progress monitoring reports:

Hackney Carriage Licence Limit

The Chair reported that further information had been requested on how the Council intended to proceed without the change in legislation that had been anticipated. The additional information would be reported to the next meeting.

Parking Policy

The Chair reported that the Cultural and Visitor Services Manager would bring some additional information on the implementation of these recommendations to the next meeting.

Water Rates Policy

The Chair reported that the Customer Services and Revenues Manager would attend the next pre-agenda meeting to discuss these recommendations as some progress has been made, but they had not yet been fully implemented. Further information would then be provided at the next meeting.

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy

Consideration of this progress monitoring report was deferred to the next meeting as the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing was not able to attend.

It was also agreed that progress monitoring reports would be received at the next meeting on the Playing Pitches Strategy and the Sports Facilities Strategy. The Sport and Leisure Manager would be asked to address the issue of accessibility at the new Queen's Park Sports Centre for people with visual impairments and how information would be displayed, such as the use of electronic notice screens.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Scrutiny Monitoring Report be agreed.

- 2) That further information be brought to the next meeting of the Committee on the progress monitoring reports in relation to the Hackney Carriage Licence Limit, Parking Policy and Water Rates Policy.
- 3) That progress monitoring reports be brought to the next meeting of the Committee on the Playing Pitches Strategy and the Sports Facilities Strategy.

15 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY DEVELOPMENTS

The Policy and Scrutiny Officer advised the Committee that a member development programme for overview and scrutiny was being developed for the coming year and would be submitted to the next meeting of the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum for comment and approval. The programme would form part of the corporate member development programme.

The Chair reported that she had attended the East Midlands Scrutiny Network, together with the Policy and Scrutiny Officer. It had been a good opportunity to share experience with other local authorities on best practice for scrutiny. They had also received a presentation from the Centre for Public Scrutiny on the role of scrutiny with Combined Authorities.

RESOLVED –

That the update be noted.

16 SCRUTINY PROJECT GROUPS

The Chair, as Leader of the Leisure, Sport and Culture Activities Scrutiny Project Group, provided the Committee with an update on their progress. The Project Group had recently met and discussed the work that had been achieved so far as well as future plans. The Committee members were informed that they could access documents for the Projects Group work in a public folder on the shared drive on the IT server. Members should contact the Committee and Scrutiny Co-ordinators for assistance in accessing this folder if required.

The draft scope for the Community Sport and Physical Activity Strategy had been reviewed and the revised document was submitted to the Committee for comment and approval.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the update on the work of the Leisure, Sport and Culture Activities Scrutiny Project Group be noted.
- 2) That the Leisure, Sport and Culture Activities Scrutiny Project Group's scoping document on the Community Sport and Physical Activity Strategy be approved.

17 FORWARD PLAN AND NOTICES OF URGENT DECISIONS

The Forward Plan was considered. There had been no Notices of Urgent Decisions published since the last meeting.

RESOLVED -

That the Forward Plan be noted.

18 WORK PROGRAMME FOR ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee considered its Work Programme.

Councillor Simmons presented the recommendation of the Community, Customer and Organisational Scrutiny Committee that the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee consider the issue of the maintenance of footpaths and pavements. Members discussed that there were a lot of concerns over litter, over-grown vegetation and general deterioration in standards with pavements and footpaths around the Borough. It was commented that the staff employed as Pavement Sweepers only sweep channels and roadways, rather than pavements.

It was agreed that the Committee needed more information on this subject and that a report would be requested to be brought to the next meeting covering the following matters:

- Where does the responsibility lie for the maintenance of different types of pavements and footpaths?

- Who should be contacted with concerns about pavements and footpaths?
- What are the current plans or protocols for the maintenance of footpaths and pavements within the Borough?
- What budget does Chesterfield Borough Council have for maintaining footpaths and pavements?
- What powers does the Council have to ensure footpaths or pavements on private land are maintained where there is a public right of way over that land?

The Committee discussed the recommendations from the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum (Minute No. 61 (2014/15)), for the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to consider appointing project groups in relation to developing the town centre, and increasing the supply and quality of housing in the Borough. It was agreed that Councillor Perkins, who had offered to lead a review on the development of the town centre, would bring some proposals for a project group to the next meeting of this Committee.

It was agreed that a briefing note would be circulated to the Committee members on the issue of the supply of housing in the Borough to inform a further consideration of this matter at the next meeting.

The Committee considered the matters pending reschedule or removal on the work programme. It was requested that an update report be circulated to Members of the Committee by email on the impact of possible County Council funding reductions on housing accommodation and support, and older people services. It was agreed that this item remain on the Work Programme to be reconsidered following receipt of this update report.

Members discussed that the Housing Allocations Policy may have been impacted by the changes to be brought in from the Summer Budget particularly relating to changes around access to housing by younger people. Members also felt that the wider impact of the Summer Budget on the housing service needed to be considered. Members requested that a report on the impact of the Summer Budget on the housing service be brought to the next meeting of this Committee, and the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Service Manager be invited, if a report would be available by that time.

It was agreed that the new business item proposed on the tenant consultation survey results be considered later in the year.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Work Programme be agreed.
- 2) That a report on the maintenance of pavements and footpaths be added to the agenda for the next Committee meeting.
- 3) That a report on the impact of the Summer Budget on the housing service be added to the agenda for the next Committee meeting.
- 4) That the briefing report on the supply of housing in the Borough be circulated to Members by email for the creation of a project group on this matter to be considered at the next Committee meeting.
- 5) That Councillor Perkins shall bring a proposal to the next Committee meeting for a project group on the development of the town centre.
- 6) That it be considered at the next meeting whether to reschedule or remove the items pending on the Work Programme.
- 7) That the new business item proposed on the tenant consultation survey results be considered at a future meeting later in the year.