

JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of a meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel held in Chamber Suite 3, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday, 26th October 2015 at 1400 hours.

PRESENT:-

Bolsover District Council (BDC):-

Councillor J. Wilson in the Chair

Councillor R. Turner, C. Millington (Scrutiny Officer) and A. Brownsword (Governance Officer)

Chesterfield Borough Council (CBC):-

Councillor H. Borrell, B. Dawson (Chief Finance Officer), and A. Cunningham (Policy and Scrutiny Officer)

North East Derbyshire District Council (NEDDC):-

Councillor K. Tait and S. Broadhead (Overview and Scrutiny Manager)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J.E. Bennett (BDC), T. Gilby (CBC), A. Slack (CBC) and D. Skinner (NEDDC)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

4. MINUTES – 10TH MARCH 2015

Moved by Councillor J. Wilson and seconded by Councillor R. Turner

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel held on 10th March 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

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5. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor J. Wilson and seconded

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the stated Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed

6. REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT STRUCTURE EXEMPT – PARAGRAPHS 1, 3 AND 4

The Chief Finance Officer (CBC) presented the report which sought to inform the Joint Scrutiny Panel of a proposed revised management and staffing structure for the shared Internal Audit service.

The report also gave information regarding savings to be made, Equality Impact Assessments carried out and consultations.

It was noted that certain expertise could be bought in from Derbyshire County Council as and when required.

A discussion took place regarding whether there would be sufficient budget to buy in required expertise when necessary.

Moved by Councillor H. Borrell and seconded by Councillor J. Wilson

RESOLVED that (1) the revised structure and the re-evaluated grades be supported,

(2) The recommendation be supported to transfer 5k of annual salary saving to the training budget, and to transfer 5k into a provision for external support.

The Chief Finance Officer (CBC) left the meeting.

7. BCN CONSULTANCY (BUILDING CONTROL) FUTURE BUSINESS CASE EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

This item was withdrawn.

8. JOINT BOARD NOTES – 5TH OCTOBER 2015

It was noted that the Joint Scrutiny Panel had been established to look at shared services between the three authorities. These were Procurement (no longer in

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existence), Internal Audit and Building Control (both services were currently subject to a wider review). Due to the reduced shared services, it was felt that a discussion was necessary on the future role of the Joint Scrutiny Panel and the Joint Board had been asked to provide information on its future work programme.

In addition to Internal Audit and Building Control, the Joint Board had suggested that there was a possibility of scrutiny of other shared bodies e.g. Joint Crematorium Committee, but this was already included within the scrutiny panel's existing Terms of Reference.

Members also considered there may be potential to look at other issues affecting all three authorities such as Combined Authorities.

A discussion took place regarding whether to keep the Joint Scrutiny Panel and the frequency of any future meetings. It was noted that previous meetings had been very short due to lack of items for discussion.

Moved by Councillor R. Turner and seconded by Councillor H. Borrell

RESOLVED that (1) the Joint Scrutiny Panel remain in place,

(2) meetings of the Joint Scrutiny Panel take place as and when required,

(3) the Joint Crematorium Committee be written to and asked to provide performance and budget information for scrutiny.

(Scrutiny Officer)

9. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference of the Joint Scrutiny Panel were amended to reflect the previous discussion.

Under the Role section, Procurement and the Home Improvement Agency were deleted.

Under Meetings of the Panel, it was amended to read: The Joint Scrutiny Panel will meet as and when required for the business stated.

Moved by Councillor R. Turner and seconded by Councillor H. Borrell

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference of the Joint Scrutiny Panel be amended as detailed above.

(Scrutiny Officer)

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10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel would be called as and when required and would be held at North East Derbyshire District Council.

The meeting concluded at 1455 hours.