

OVERVIEW AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY FORUM

Thursday, 12th December, 2013

Present:-

Councillor Innes (Chair)

Councillors	Bagley	Gibson++
	Blank+	Hawksworth++
	Bradford	King+++
	Brown+	Lang
	Callan	Lowe
	Diouf++	Tom Murphy
	Dyke	Slack
	Flood	Paul Stone

Jackie Brobyn – Democratic Services Officer
 Anita Cunningham – Scrutiny Officer
 Mark Evans – Head of Business Transformation+
 Sara T Goodwin – Head of Governance+++
 Joe Tomlinson – Community Safety Officer+

+ Attended for Minute No. 53
 ++ Members requesting call-in
 +++ Attended for Minute No. 56

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

No declarations were received.

52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Borrell.++

53 EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITIES REPORT ON CORPORATE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Councillor Blank, Executive Member for Customers and Communities, Councillor Brown, Assistant Executive Member for Customers and Communities, Mark Evans, Head of Business Transformation and Joe Tomlinson, Community Safety Officer attended the meeting to present the business case for the Private Sector Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Review and to seek comment from Members for inclusion in the report to Cabinet.

It was noted that the Council's Corporate Plan 2012-15 included a requirement to review the Council's arrangements for ASB management in the private sector, and the following four options were included in the report for consideration:

- Status quo – no change
- Using all or part of the funding from a vacant post to employ a case worker
- Employing a number of case workers
- Radically re-designing the current roles of the Community Safety Team.

The options range from an annual saving of £32,000 to an additional cost of £66,000. Due to the financial situation of the Council and the business needs, option 2 was strongly favoured by the Project Board as being best value.

Members of the Forum considered the four options and after a lengthy discussion agreed that the Forum would support the Project Board's recommendation, with a preference for option 2(b) to use part of the funding from a vacant post to employ a case worker for 0.6 FTE (part full time equivalent).

RESOLVED - That the Forum supports the Board's recommendation to use part of the funding from the vacant post to employ a case worker for 0.6 FTE (part of full time equivalent).

54 FORWARD PLAN

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

55 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Regulation 21 (1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2000, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraphs 1,3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972'

56 CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR CALL IN OF JOINT CABINET AND EMPLOYMENT AND GENERAL COMMITTEE DECISION - PROPOSED RESTRUCTURE OF GOVERNANCE

The Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum gave consideration to the above request for call-in of the Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee's decision at Minute No. 19 in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules. They heard evidence from the Members who made the request and also from the Executive Member for Governance and Organisational Development and the Head of Governance.

The issue which was raised by the call-in members in respect of the decision made by Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee was that the consultation process had been inadequately carried out with all stakeholders to ensure a better outcome. It was felt that a well documented wide consultation would have maximised the chances of success of the proposed changes as ownership of the changes was vital.

Following a lengthy discussion with representations being made by members requesting the call-in, the Executive Member for Governance and Organisational Development and the Head of Governance, the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum Members decided the decision should not be called-in and therefore the Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee decision should take effect.

RESOLVED - That the request for call-in of the Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee decision – Proposed Restructure of Governance, be not supported, and the decision take effect.