

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25th November 2020

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Hewlett (Chairman), Councillor Roberts (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Atkin and Corbin

Labour Group

Councillors Bambrick, Gee and Mrs Stuart

In Attendance

Councillors Angliss, Mrs. Bridgen, Mrs. Brown, Churchill, Fitzpatrick, Ford, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. Patten, Dr. Pearson, Richards, Southerd, Tilley and Mrs. Wheelton.

OS/19 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies had been received.

OS/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee was informed that Councillor Atkin, Councillor Bambrick and Councillor Ford declared interests item OS/23 by virtue of being Derbyshire County Councillors.

OS/21 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the Public had been received.

OS/22 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

OS/23 **VISION DERBYSHIRE – Verbal Update**

The Chief Executive provided a short history and summary of the Vision Derbyshire programme for Members noting that it would be too early in the process to make a recommendation. The Chief Executive advised Members that all supporting materials had been distributed and that a directive from Members was now required if work and funds were to be allocated to the project.

Members discussed the programme at length and enquired why the Vision Derbyshire programme was being pursued when Derby City Council had stepped away.

The Chief Executive explained that it was the future of local government that was being considered and that Derby City Council were heavily focussed on a recovery programme for the Covid-19 outbreak.

Councillors raised questions about the financial impact, funding of the programme and if employees would be affected. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) clarified that there was no allocated funding for the programme and that a full assessment would be required. The Chief Executive explained that savings suggested in the Price Waterhouse Cooper report did not indicate if staff costs were included and that the appropriate people would need to be in place to form a business plan for the programme.

Councillor Corbin raised concerns that Vision Derbyshire may have a detrimental impact on the current close relationship with the local community. The Chief Executive and Leader of the Council informed Members that the intention of Vision Derbyshire was to provide improvements in services to residents and to bring benefits and opportunities to the District.

Members suggested a pause the analysis of the programme until there was further direction from central government.

Councillor Corbin raised concern that large projects such as Climate Change would not be driven through by District or Borough Councils. The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) informed Members that initiatives such as Electric Cars and Healthy Homes could potentially move forward.

The Chief Executive confirmed that questions submitted in writing prior to the Committee would be answered, but a debate amongst Members would be the correct course of action. The Chief Executive confirmed that he would not accept any role or salary in Vision Derbyshire, if offered. The Leader advised Members likewise.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee noted the report and recommended that the Leader and Chief Executive continue to be involved with the Vision Derbyshire process, but not make any commitment at this stage.

OS/24 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) delivered the report to the Committee.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

OS/25 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 20:00 hours.

COUNCILLOR HEWLETT

CHAIRMAN