

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

24th September 2020

OPEN

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor MacPherson (Chairman), Councillor Mrs Haines (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Mrs Brown, Fitzpatrick, Ford, Mrs Patten and Mrs Wheelton (substituting for Councillor Dawson).

Labour Group

Councillors Dunn, Mrs. Heath, Dr Pearson (substituting for Councillor Taylor), Shepherd (substituting for Councillor Tilley) and Singh.

EDS/36 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillors Dawson, Hewlett, Dr Pearson and Tilley.

EDS/37 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Ford declared an interest in EDS/52 Additional Staffing Due to Covid-19, by virtue of being a County Councillor.

EDS/38 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

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

EDS/39 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

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

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/40 **CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24 PERFORMANCE REPORT (2020-2021 QUARTER 1 – 1 APRIL T 30 JUNE)**

The Head of Organisational Development and Performance presented the report and updated Members regarding the eight performance measures and

noted two for concern, namely: Fly-Tipping and Fuel Poverty. The Head of Organisational Development and Performance explained that mitigating actions had been applied in both cases and highlighted salient points in the Risk Register.

The Committee raised a query regarding the impact of increased Fly Tipping. The Head of Environmental Services informed Members that fixed penalty notices had been issued, and that new arrangements would enable more investigations to be carried out moving forward.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee considered progress against performance targets set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024.**
- 1.2 The Committee reviewed the Risk Register for the Committee's services.**

EDS/41 **LICENSING ACT 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the report to the Committee, outlining the main points of the report, highlighting the need to update the Policy to reflect changes in legislation.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Members noted the consultation responses received in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy as per Appendix 1 of the Report.**
- 1.2 The Members approved the Council's Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy ("Policy").**

EDS/42 **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – LICENSING DEPARTMENT**

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the report and updated Members how the Licensing Team had continued to support the Licensing processes throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Members noted the performance of the Licensing Department in relation to the Key Performance Indicators.**

EDS/43 **CONSULTATION ON PLANNING WHITE PAPER – PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee confirming that all questions in the White Paper had been answered as required and highlighted proposed changes identified during the consultation process. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing drew attention to the doubling of housing requirements for South Derbyshire, changes to current

processes, the lack of flexibility in discussions with local community groups and the requirement to prepare a new Local Plan within 30 months.

The Committee expressed concern over 30 months to deliver a new Local Plan and the level of penalties if this was not achieved and collaborative working with neighbouring authorities. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing confirmed that the Planning Policy Team had been tasked to gather evidence regarding this and that work would be ongoing, but it was unlikely that a Local Plan could be completed in a 30-month time period and that although penalties had not been defined it could include government appointed planners assisting local authorities to prepare Local Plans. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing informed Members that the Council was in communication with neighbouring authorities who had viewed the White Paper with similar concerns.

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved the response to the Government’s White Paper consultation “Planning for the Future” on the basis of the comments set out in Appendix 2 of the Report, with the final response to be delegated to the Chairman of Environment and Development Services Committee in consultation with the Head of Planning and Strategic Housing.

EDS/44 **ADOPTION OF LOCAL GREEN SPACES PLAN**

The Planning Policy Officer presented the report to Members confirming that the report would have the same weight as the Local Plan and that the preparation had seen a lot of community involvement.

Members received the report with interest and gratitude for the work involved by the team.

RESOLVED:

The Committee agreed to adopt the Local Green Spaces Plan as a Development Plan Document, incorporating all the main modifications set out by the Inspector and the additional modifications proposed by the Council, including any consequential and other appropriate alterations for the purposes of clarification or typographical corrections.

EDS/45 **CHANGES TO THE CURRENT PLANNING SYSTEM, MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION**

The Planning Policy Officer presented the report to Members highlighting that the housing new calculations for the District changed and explained how the Council would maintain the management of affordable homes.

The Committee raised concerns about the number of affordable housing and the level of consultation with local authorities. The Planning Policy Officer informed Members that whilst there had been some collaboration with the Council consultation had not been completed.

RESOLVED:

The Committee agreed that the proposed answers to questions set out in Annexe B of the report be forwarded to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government as the Council's response to 'Changes to the Current Planning System' consultation.

EDS/46 **TRIAL OF POOL CAR ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE NHS**

The Head of Environmental Services presented the report to Members outlining the key benefits of a collaboration with NHS Derbyshire for provision of a pool car for staff.

The Committee asked for clarification regarding costs, how the key would be obtained and how driving license checks would be carried out. The Head of Environmental Services confirmed that the cleaning costs were included and advised that the online booking system would only include a list of approved users and agreed to update the Committee with reference to the provision of keys.

RESOLVED:

The Committee endorsed the trial of a pool car scheme in partnership with NHS Derbyshire and agreed that a further report on a more permanent scheme, if the trial is successful, be received by this Committee.

EDS/47 **BID FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGE POINTS**

The Head of Environmental Services presented the report to Members highlighting the main factors, specifically the availability of electric vehicle recharging points. It was noted that installation of charging points for use by residents and users of the car parks had been considered and that eight recharge points were proposed within the two approved sites.

The Committee supported the proposal and recognised the amount of work put into the report.

RESOLVED:

The Committee endorsed the bid for government funding for the installation of electric vehicle recharge points within Council car parks.

EDS/48 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to Members.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

EDS/49 **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.

EDS/50

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.

ADDITIONAL STAFFING REQUIREMENTS DUE TO COVID 19

RESOLVED:-

The Committee approved the recommendation in the report.

The meeting terminated at 20:05hrs.

COUNCILLOR MACPHERSON

CHAIRMAN