

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

20<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**PRESENT:-**

**Conservative Group**

Councillor Swann (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Atkin, Mrs Coe and Mrs Patten.

**Labour Group**

Councillor Bambrick, Pearson and Mrs. Stuart.

OS/36 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs Farrington (Conservative Group)

OS/37 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee were informed that no declarations of interest from Members of the Council had been received.

OS/38 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

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

OS/39 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

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

OS/40 **SECTION 106 HEALTH BASED PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Locality Manager, Mr. Robert Hill from the Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG), gave a verbal update on the current situation regarding Section 106 Health based contributions received since 1st April 2009. Under the National Scheme 2015, the Primary Fund brought in new premises and extensions to existing premises.

The Wellbrook Medical Centre in Hilton took advantage of this and works to build a new Primary Fund treatment room, will commence in February 2016, and to ensure that if a future need arises to extend upwards, lift access will be added to the room. This extension will accommodate 280+ additional

treatments per month, and will cover the expected population growth in Hilton of 30%.

The Planning Services Manager clarified that the Section 106 contributions for the Woodville Surgery had not been allocated as the surgery had not made a final decision on the new GP Surgery across the road, which would accommodate double the current capacity of appointments, planning permission had been granted 12 months ago. Melbourne GP Surgery would use the allocated £55k to reconsolidate its internal space to allow for an additional treatment room and GP, which would create an additional week's worth of appointments per month.

Swadlincote will use the allocated £33k to add in clinical space internally, including a new ECG machine, by adding more outdoor storage space; this would create an additional 150 appointments per week.

Mr Robert Hill will get a signed agreement from the Swadlincote Surgery, that the funding received to create the additional space for an extra GP will be for a period of 10 years, and that Derbyshire County Council will not increase the rent during this period. If the GP decides to move the surgery elsewhere, the funding would have to be returned.

A query were raised regarding if the parking at the new GP Surgery on Darklands Road will be impacted if new outdoor storage space were created? Mr Hill would look into this and feedback the information to Members.

Councillor Mrs Patten thank Mr Hill on behalf of the Committee for the work he is undertaking and making such progress with the Section 106 funding.

**RESOLVED:-**

***1.1 That the Committee noted the content of the update.***

***1.2 That the Committee invited Mr. Hill to the next Committee meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in Melbourne.***

OS/41 **FESTIVAL OF LEISURE**

The Events and Marketing Officer and Events Assistant gave a presentation to give members the background, breakdown and development of the Festival of Leisure, which was attended by approximately 8,000 people over the two days in 2015.

In 2013 the Council reviewed its Public Events programme, the review confirmed the importance of this event and other key events, and a dedicated Events and Marketing Team was formed within the Community and Planning Directorate, which has since then been responsible for all flag ship events in the Corporate Plan at South Derbyshire District Council. Each year in preparation for the festival sealed bids are received by the Council for

services such as catering, ice-cream and inflatables, each bid is scrutinized to ensure best value is achieved as income helps subsidise the cost to the Council. In 2015, after income and expenditure had been calculated, the total cost to the Council was £2.7k, this equates to a cost of 33 pence per person attending the festival.

Queries and comments made by Councillors relating to the possibilities of creating smaller versions of the festival in the outer areas, how to encourage more charities to take part, working with other organisations such as Morris Dancing groups to create other free events, and the Council supporting newly created local events were noted and responded to.

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the Committee noted the report on the Festival of Leisure.***

OS/42 **BUDGET REPORT 2016/17 INCORPORATING THE CONSOLIDATED BUDGET PROPOSALS AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN TO 2021**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services delivered the report to the Committee, clarifying the position entering the 2016/17 budget round, the updated General Fund position with the medium-term projection, identifying the need to achieve savings of up to £1.5m over the spending period. It was noted that the Council's Financial Settlement for 2016/17, along with those projected through to 2020, were less than initially anticipated, a reflection of the change in funding emphasis towards adult social care and children's services influencing greater allocation at a County level. As a result the Council ranks 45th out of 383 local authorities in terms of loss of resources.

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services stated that as a result of the growth within the district, resulting in greater income from New Homes Bonus, retained Business Rates and Council Tax, it was assumed that the Council would become self-financing more quickly than many others. It was also noted that the Council would fall out of Revenue Support Grant sooner than anticipated. He added that the BR (Business Rates) retention levels were set to rise, but that details would not be available for another six to nine months. The New Homes Bonus was being 'top-sliced' to fund social care, it being proposed that its payment be reduced from six to four years and that the first 25% of growth be discounted, considered 'deadweight'. It was also being proposed that penalties be introduced for there being no Local Plan in place and no payment made in relation to new homes which were rejected but then overturned on appeal.

Reference was made to accommodating a new Apprenticeship Levy, applicable from 2017/18 and the risks relating to the concerns being expressed by the recycling contractor regarding increased costs. In relation to Council Tax, the Director stated that the Government was no longer providing support to maintain a freeze in its levels, unlike in the last five years, so a 1.95% increase was being budgeted for from 2016/17, in line with Government assumptions.

Queries and comments by Members concerning possible revenue generated if the Council collected recycling from smaller business in the district and the projected deficit were noted and responded to.

**RESOLVED:-**

***1.1 That the budget proposals approved by the Finance and Management Committee are noted.***

OS/43 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

The Vice-Chairman suggested that Recycling and Street Cleansing be added to the work programme with the approval of the Chair on her return.

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers its work programme.***

OS/44 **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 were informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.***

The Meeting terminated at 8:10pm.

COUNCILLOR S. SWANN

VICE-CHAIRMAN