

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

18th August 2016

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Watson (Chairman), Atkin (substituting for Councillor Mrs. Brown), Ford, Harrison (substituting for Councillor Mrs Hall), Mrs Patten, Mrs Plenderleith (substituting for Councillor Muller), Smith (substituting for Councillor Roberts) and Stanton

Labour Group

Councillors Chahal, Shepherd, Taylor and Tilley

In attendance

Councillor Mrs Farrington (Conservative Group)

EDS/17 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the meeting was received from Councillor Mrs Brown, Mrs Hall, Muller and Roberts (Conservative Group)

EDS/18 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd June 2016 were noted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

EDS/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

EDS/20 **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/21 **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.

EDS/22 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee was informed that there were no Overview & Scrutiny Committee reports for it to consider.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/23 **CORPORATE PLAN 2016-21: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT (1 APRIL – 30 JUNE 2016)**

The Director of Community and Planning Services and the Director of Housing and Environmental Services jointly presented the report to inform Members of the progress made during the first quarter of 2016/17, highlighting action being taken to address those areas not currently on target.

Councillor Stanton queried the noise complaints in terms of the private and social housing figures, responded to by the Director of Housing and Environmental Services.

Councillor Taylor referred to the planning appeal details, querying the action being taken and the cost impact on the Council. The Director of Community and Planning Services confirmed that assessments were made of the likelihood of appeals and their impact, along with consideration as to whether legal advice, further training and/or the commission of consultants could reduce such impacts. The Director also stated that details of the total costs were currently unavailable. Councillor Shepherd repeated his previous requests for costs details, querying the delay. The Director undertook to investigate the matter further.

RESOLVED:

Members noted progress against the performance targets.

EDS/24 **UPDATE TO PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY**

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the report to Committee, outlining the changes made to the policy submitted for approval.

Councillor Atkin queried the signage requirements, a matter explained by the Senior Licensing Officer. The Chairman suggested that to add clarity, it should be made clear in the policy that the signage must be displayed externally.

Councillor Shepherd raised the matter of delays with DBS renewal checks. The Senior Licensing Officer clarified the position in terms of some areas being more in backlog than others, but that the proposal to make it mandatory for all drivers to be signed up for the DBS online checking service would greatly reduce any such delays.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the proposed changes to the Private Hire Licensing Policy, to come into effect on 1st October 2016.

EDS/25 **WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme for 2016/17.

EDS/26 **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.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the on 2nd June 2016 were received.

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 6.20pm.

COUNCILLOR P WATSON

CHAIRMAN