

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12th February 2020

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

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

Labour Group

Councillors Bambrick, and Mrs Stuart

In Attendance

Councillors Mrs Brown and Shepherd

OS/47 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Dawson (Conservative Group) and Councillors Gee (Labour Group).

OS/48 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th October 2019 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

OS/49 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

Councillor Atkin declared a personal interest in Item 6, Digital Derbyshire – Verbal Update, by virtue of being a County Councillor, advising he would not participate in the debate.

OS/50 **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/51 **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/52 **DIGITAL DERBYSHIRE – VERBAL UPDATE**

Digital Derbyshire delivered a presentation to the Committee which gave an overview of the Programme to date and what is coming in the future, as well as what different funding streams are available to enable as many customers as possible to gain access to fibre broadband. Digital Derbyshire closed the presentation with a response to questions received from Members prior to the Committee.

Members raised queries regarding the take up of BT Openreach from Developers of new builds for broadband infrastructure and could Planning assist with this. Digital Broadband explained that it is entirely the choice of the Developer, they register the site for communications and then choose whichever Communication Company for telephony and broadband services.

Councillor Corbin went onto to ask when 5G will be available in South Derbyshire. Digital Derbyshire informed the Committee that it is expected that Swadlincote will be one of the first 5G areas but they did not know the timeframe for this.

The Chairman thanked Digital Derbyshire for updating the Committee and looked forward to a further update in the future.

OS/53 **CYCLE PROVISION**

The Active Community and Health Partnership Manager and the Planning Policy Officer delivered a presentation outlining the report to the Committee. The officers highlighted the Key Cycle Network objectives in medium and long term and reported an increased participation in a number of cycling activities across the District. Members were also informed that the Council's Active Travel Plan encourages staff who live within a 10-mile radius to cycle to work, where practicable.

Following a discussion with Members it was agreed that the Planning Policy Officer would attend the next Committee to give an update on securing elements of the County Council's proposed cycle network through approved planning applications.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee noted the current cycling provision across South Derbyshire.

1.2 The Committee noted the development of a Key Cycle Network for Derbyshire and the implication for proposed routes in South Derbyshire.

OS/54 **REPORT BACK TO FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET PROPOSALS – VERBAL UPDATE**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) addressed the Committee regarding the report back to the Finance and Management Committee as at the last Committee meeting Members raised concern over the procurement arrangements and how it is currently delivered by a Health Service provider.

Members thought that value for money should be considered and queries were raised about processes.

The Chairman agreed that in his absence Councillor Corbin should take a report to the next Finance and Management Committee requesting a Report back from the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) to enable this Committee to take a closer look at procurement.

OS/55 **PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND BENCHMARKING?**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) delivered the report to the Committee giving an overview of the Council's arrangement for measuring performance and benchmarking.

Members raised queries as to why other areas could not meet a 100% of their KPIs as Licensing has done. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) explained that in many instances a 100% target is not realistic due to external factors. He explained the use of benchmarking and the need to look behind the figures for detailed comparisons.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted the report and agreed to include further analysis of specific performance indicators in the Committee's work programme for 2020/21.

OS/56 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme including Annexe 'A'.

OS/57 **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 8.00pm.

COUNCILLOR HEWLETT
CHAIRMAN