

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2013 AT 10:00AM

Present: Councillors John Kane (Chair); Jackie Bowman; Eileen Eastwood; Allan Forster; Geoff Garrity; Ian Hill; Sam Pollen; Dave Smith; Felicity Wilson and Henry Wormstrup.

Officers: Penny Mell, Head of Policy and Transformation; Darienne Law, Head of Corporate Resources; Keith Parker, Head of Neighbourhoods; Janice Carroll, Waste Services Manager and Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Also present: Councillors Yvonne Clarkson; Allan Holliday; John Jackson and Gillian Troughton.

OSC 10/13

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

OSC 11/13

Executive Forward Plan

Committee considered the Forward Plan of the Council's Executive for the period July - October 2013.

During discussion of this item it was requested that updates be presented to the next meeting on the Growth Strategy and BEC Economic Blueprint.

RESOLVED – That

- a) the Forward Plan be noted and
- b) an update be presented to the next meeting on the Growth Strategy and BEC Economic Blueprint.

OSC 12/13

Financial Monitoring

The Head of Corporate Resources Committee provided Members with a summary of the Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 4, 2012-13.

During the question and answer session that followed, Members made enquiries regarding the amount held in reserves and the legal position; the amount of revenue collected for central Government and how much Copeland receives back; who runs the Copeland Pension Scheme.

The Head of Corporate Resources was thanked for her attendance at the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 4, 2012-13 be noted.

OSC 13/13

Performance Monitoring

The Head of Policy and Transformation provided a summary of the Council Plan Performance Report Quarter 4, 2012-13 that had previously been taken to the Executive on 28 May 2013 and stressed that performance was assessed based on the delivery of key projects and the performance against measures in the Council Plan.

Members were advised that the Council Plan 2012/13 identified a programme of 16 key projects and overall the key projects had progressed well. Additionally, there were 19 performance measures, 18 of which were on target and 1 was awaiting information.

During the discussion that followed, Members raised a concern that the figures quoted were for the borough as a whole, yet there was a big variance between wards which the figures did not reflect.

Members were pleased to see that the target figure of 50 apprenticeships being facilitated had been exceeded by a further 12.

RESOLVED – that the Performance monitoring update be received.

OSC 14/13

Report of the Member representative to the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Geoff Garrity reported verbally to Overview and Scrutiny Members on the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee.

It was reported that since the publication of the Keogh Report, the health authority had held a meeting in Carlisle to consider and identified areas that required attention. 'Quick Fixes' were being implemented first and other remedial work would be undertaken, but may take longer.

It was requested that a copy of the Keogh report be placed in the Members' Room

It was further reported that work on the West Cumberland Hospital new build was progressing ahead of schedule.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

OSC 15/13

Progress Reports/Final Reports from Public Sector Partner Priority Task Groups

No Items reported at this meeting.

OSC 16/13

Work Programme

Members considered the Committee's Work Programme.

RESOLVED – that the Work Programme be noted.

OSC 17/13

Overview of Waste Services Changes Implementation

This item had been requested for inclusion on the agenda by three non-Overview and Scrutiny Committee members (Councillors Yvonne Clarkson, David Moore and John Jackson) following the procedure described in Chapter 8 of Council's Constitution.

The Waste Services Manager delivered a presentation on the Waste Services Changes Implementation, which aimed to reduce costs associated with refuse collection by £100k per annum.

This included

- New rules for Large Bins and Assisted Bin Collection;
- Standardising Green waste collections across the Borough to one bin per property;
- Seasonal Green Waste collections
- Rules or policies agreed minimising 'off route' collections;
- EIA consultation carried out appropriately where service changes significantly impact on residents
- Communication the Service Changes to residents
- Issuing new Collection calendars to all residents
- Reviewing the potential for enhancing in-cab technology and linking to Customer Services

Members were then provided with an update on what had changed so far and the progress still being made.

During the discussion that followed, Members raised questions regarding Off route collections where the resident receives assistance; the criteria for assisted collections; smaller bins for single person households; the types of vehicles used for waste collections; further potential cuts to the service.

Members also challenged the cost analysis figures, the savings made by implementing the changes and any equalities implications.

Members suggested that a meeting to discuss the implications of decisions made by the Policy Development Groups would be useful and it was further suggested that this be arranged prior to the OSC training session on either 10 September 2013 or 2 October 2013.

RESOLVED – that the presentation and update be received.

The meeting closed at 12:30 pm

Chairman

Date