

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 AUGUST 2014 AT 10:00AM

Present: Councillors: John Kane, Chairman; David Banks; Jackie Bowman; George Clements; Eileen Eastwood; Ian Hill; Sam Pollen; Gilbert Scurrah; Dave Smith; Carole Woodman and Henry Wormstrup.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Allan Forster and Felicity Wilson.

Officers: Andrea Smith; Policy and Scrutiny Officer and Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.
Julie Betteridge, Head of Customer and Community Services (for item 12 only)

Also Present: Councillor Jon Downie.
Paul Musgrave (Public Health Team) and Karl Melville (Cumbria Highways) and Councillor Frank Morgan, Cumbria County Council.

OSC 14/14

Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held on 11 June 2014 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

OSC 15/14

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Henry Wormstrup declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Items 15 (The Role of Public Health) and 16 (Whitehaven Traffic Plan and On Street Parking) due to being a Cumbria County Councillor.

OSC 16/14

Arrangement of the Agenda

With the permission of the Chairman, it was agreed that agenda Item 15 (The Role of Public Health) be taken first, followed by Item 16 (Whitehaven Traffic Plan and On-Street Parking) and the Item 12 (Partnerships).

OSC 17/14

The Role of Public Health

Members received a presentation from Paul Musgrave, Cumbria County Council.

This included an overview of how Cumbria's health provision was delivered previously and how it is provided currently, following the 2013 health reforms.

During discussion of this item, Members raised questions regarding patients being referred to hospitals outside of Cumbria at Preston and Hexham, Waiting List times and Alcohol problems in Copeland.

It was suggested that the Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to attend a future meeting of this committee.

It was further suggested that 'HealthWatch' be included as a subject for the forthcoming Task & Finish Group to look into.

RESOLVED – that

- a) The presentation be received,
- b) The Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to attend a future meeting of this committee.
- c) 'HealthWatch' be included as a subject for the forthcoming Task & Finish Group to look into.

OSC 18/14

Whitehaven Traffic Plan and On-Street Parking

Members received details from Karl Melville, Cumbria Highways and County Councillor Frank Morgan regarding the Whitehaven Traffic Plan and On-Street Parking.

Members were advised that the road improvements around the new Albion Square development appeared to be working well, but would be monitored once the new office buildings were occupied.

It was noted that work on the new Mirehouse Junction with the A595 would be commencing soon and this improvement should aid Whitehaven.

During the discussion that followed Members asked further question regarding the parking problems and traffic flow along Low Road, traffic using back roads as 'rat runs', the removal of Speed Humps, the ad hoc parking of Blue Badge holders and the five junctions on the A595 between Bransty and Howgate.

Committee was then updated on the plans for On-Street Parking Charges, which would probably be introduced from March 2015.

The streets in Whitehaven, that had been identified by the Copeland Local Area Committee for on-street charges, were listed and it was stressed that enforcement would then be even more important.

Members were advised that all enforcement contracts within Cumbria were being terminated within the next three months and in future would be managed in house by Cumbria County Council.

Karl Melville and Councillor Frank Morgan were thanked for their attendance.

RESOLVED – that the update be received.

OSC 19/14

Partnerships

The Head of Customer and Community Services provided Members with a brief verbal update on Partnerships.

Committee was advised that :-

- Internal Audit had reviewed Partnership arrangements.
- An assessment tool would be circulated by the Policy and Scrutiny Officer.
- The new 2014 process would be used from October 2014.
- The Partnership framework had been updated.

Members were concerned that a recent ‘One North’ press release included Manchester, Liverpool and the North East, but not Cumbria.

RESOLVED – that the update be noted.

OSC 20/14

Executive Forward Plan

Committee considered the Forward Plan of the Council’s Executive.

RESOLVED – That Executive Forward Plan be noted.

OSC 21/14

Financial Monitoring

There were no Financial Monitoring reports for scrutiny at this meeting.

OSC 22/14

Performance Monitoring

There were no Performance Monitoring reports for scrutiny at this meeting.

OSC 23/14

Report of the Member representative to the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee

The Member representative, Councillor Geoff Garrity was not present and therefore no update was provided.

RESOLVED – that the report of the Member representative to the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee be carried forward to the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

OSC 24/14 **Work Programme**

Members considered their Work Programme for 2014-15.

Committee was advised that a Task and Finish Group looking at Health and Wellbeing in Copeland would be holding a scoping meeting on Monday 11 August at 10am in the Nicholson Room. Councillors George Clements and Carole Woodman requested that they be involved and Councillor Ian Hill was asked to Chair.

Councillor Sam Pollen requested that he be involved in the Welfare Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED – that

- a) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2014-15 be agreed, and
- b) the arrangements for the Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group be noted.

OSC 25/14 **Learning and Development**

Members discussed a Training Programme that would be developed with the needs of Overview and Scrutiny Members in mind and that this would be further discussed with the Member Development Panel as necessary.

RESOLVED – that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Training 2014-15 update be noted.

OSC 26/14 **Directly Elected Mayor**

Members received a verbal update on the Directly Elected Mayor.

RESOLVED – that the update on the Directly Elected Mayor be noted.

OSC 27/14 **WCCSP**

Members were advised that there was a duty to scrutinise the West Cumbria Community Safety Project (WCCSP) on an annual basis. It was suggested that a workshop be arranged for the end of November 2014 to establish what work was currently ongoing and what was planned for the future.

It was suggested that the Portfolio Holder (Councillor Phillip Tibble, Allerdale Borough Council) be invited to attend

RESOLVED – that the update on the West Cumbria Community Safety Project be noted.

The meeting closed at 12:40pm

Chairman

Date