

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD: 4 APRIL 2013

Start: 7.30pm

Finish: 8.50pm

PRESENT: Ashcroft (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Atherley Jones
Bailey Kay
Bell McKay
Blane Moran
Mrs R Evans O'Toole
Furey Pendleton
Griffiths Savage
J Hodson Wright

Officers: Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration (Mr R Livermore)
Transformation Manager (Mr S Walsh)
Deputy Borough Treasurer (Mr M Kostrzewski)
Assistant Solicitor (Mr M Hynes)
Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer (Mrs C A Jackson)

59. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Cheetham.

60. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2, Members noted the termination of membership of Councillors Baldock, Cropper, Fillis, Gagen, Gibson and Pope and the appointment of Councillors Mrs Atherley, Bailey, Furey, Griffiths, McKay and Wright for this meeting only thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Groups.

61. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Atherley, Ashcroft, Bailey, Bell, Blane, Mrs R Evans, J Hodson, Jones and Kay declared non-pecuniary interests in relation to item 9 (Capital Programme Monitoring) in relation to Parish Council matters in view of their membership of Parish Councils.

63. DECLARATIONS OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of a Party Whip.

64. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2013 be received as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of "Councillor Mrs R Evans" at Minute 47, and were signed by the Chairman.

65. RELEVANT MINUTES OF CABINET

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19 March 2013.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Cabinet held on 19 March 2013 be noted.

66. CALL IN ITEMS – TENANTS CASH BACK SCHEME

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Solicitor which advised that a decision of Cabinet in respect of the above item (Minute 110) had received a call in requisition signed by five members of the Committee. The report set out the reason for the call in together with a different decision put forward by the Members concerned on the requisition notice.

Reference was made to the report of the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration that provided details of the three pilot schemes, currently being undertaken and commissioned by the Government, on proposals for the involvement of tenants in the repair and maintenance of their homes and the wide spread implications of the proposals and the involvement by Members and Tenants in the policy decision.

The call-in sought an opportunity by overview and scrutiny to scrutinise the report that would come forward following completion of the pilot schemes referred to prior to consideration by Cabinet.

As a consequence of discussion on this item it was agreed that the following request be referred to Cabinet.

RESOLVED: That, when written, the subsequent report (referred to at resolution B (Cabinet Minute 110), be referred to this Committee prior to consideration by Cabinet.

67. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT 2013/14

Consideration was given to the report of the Transformation Manager that detailed the Suite of Performance Indicators for adoption as the Council's Corporate PI Suite for 2013/14.

In discussion Members raised questions and comments in respect of the following performance indicators:

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- OCL-BV9 (*% of Council Tax collected*) – monitoring / setting of target.
- TSI-BV66a (*% rent collected*) (*excluding arrears brought forward*) – impact of welfare reforms.
- NI159 (*Supply of ready to develop housing schemes*) – shortage of sites.
- NI155 (*Number of affordable homes delivered*) (*gross*) – lead in time for developments.
- NI195a (*Improved street and environmental cleanliness – levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting*): Litter & NI195d: *Fly tipping* – targets.
- NI192 (*Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting*) – targets.
- BV12 (*Working Days Lost Due to Sickness Absence*) – target / performance.
- NI151 (*Overall Employment rate – working age*) – deletion of indicator.
- TS24b-BV212 SP (*Average time take to re-let local authority housing (days): Supported Needs*) – target / performance.
- TS24a-BV212 GN: *General Needs* – re-letting of larger properties.
- Targets marked t.b.c. related to shared services (OCL).

The Transformation Manager attended the meeting and responded to questions referencing details contained in the report. Members noted the amendment to the annual target for TSI-BV66a (% rent collected) that had now been set at 97% and in relation to the annual targets (OCL), marked to be confirmed, that these would be circulated to all Members in due course.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

68. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Treasurer, as contained on pages 1907 to 1916 of the Book of Reports which provided an update on the current position in respect of the 2012/2013 Capital Programme.

Members made comments in relation to:

- Right to Buy Sales – increase in discount cap.
- Public Sector Housing – Bath Springs / Oakgate Close – overspend prediction.
- Affordable Housing Development Project – employment opportunities / energy efficiencies / service charge.
- Demolition of Westec House – delay.

The Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration and the Borough Treasurer, who attended the meeting, responded to questions referencing details contained in the Borough Treasurer's report.

RESOLVED: That the current position in respect of the 2012/2013 Capital Programme be noted.

69. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Treasurer, as contained on pages 1917 to 1923 of the Book of Reports, which provided a projection of the financial position on the General and Housing Revenue Accounts to the end of the financial year.

Members raised questions/comments in relation to:

- Savings on historic pension costs.
- Costs associated with Welfare Reform / Universal Credit Implementation.

The Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration and the Borough Treasurer, who attended the meeting, responded to questions referencing details contained in the Borough Treasurer's report.

RESOLVED: That the financial position of the Revenue Accounts be noted.

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Chairman