

SCRUTINY & OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

2ND JUNE 2014

Present: Councillors: John Chidlow, Philip Circus, Roger Clarke,
George Cockman, Leonard Crosbie, Brian Donnelly,
Duncan England, Brian O'Connell, David Sheldon, David Skipp

Apologies: Councillors: David Coldwell, Laurence Deakins, Kate Rowbottom,
Diana van der Klugt, Tricia Youtan

Also present: Councillor Frances Haigh

Officer: Katharine Eberhart, Director of Corporate Resources

SO/1 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED

That Councillor George Cockman be elected Chairman of
the Committee for the ensuing Council year.

SO/2 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED

That Councillor Brian Donnelly be appointed Vice-
Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing Council year.

SO/3 **TIME OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED

That meetings of the Committee be held at 5.30 p.m. for
the ensuing Council year.

SO/4 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12th May 2014 were
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SO/5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

SO/6 **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chairman announced that Daniela Smith, Scrutiny and Committee Support Officer, had given birth to a daughter. The Chairman had sent a card which had been signed by Councillors to congratulate Daniela.

SO/7 **REPLIES FROM CABINET/COUNCIL REGARDING SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Cabinet Member for the Environment had written to say he was unable to attend the Committee meeting on 7th July 2014 to present his response to the recommendations in the Trade Waste Working Group Report. The Committee noted that the Cabinet Member said he agreed with all of the recommendations and was content to sign it off and authorise actions to implement the recommendations.

SO/8 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDING WORKING GROUPS**

The Committee expressed its wish that the Chairman of the Finance and Performance Working Group should be a member of the Business Improvement Working Group and vice versa.

The Committee appointed the Members of the standing Working Groups for the ensuing Council year.

(a) Business Improvement Working Group

The following Members were appointed by the Committee to the Business Improvement Working Group:

Councillors John Chidlow, Malcolm Curnock, Laurence Deakins, Duncan England, Frances Haigh, David Jenkins, Brian O'Connell

The Committee also appointed the following Members, who had been co-opted for the purpose of assisting with the review of Development Management and Planning Services, as full Members of the Business Improvement Working Group:
Councillors Philip Circus, Leonard Crosbie, Jim Goddard

(b) Crime and Disorder Working Group

The following Members were appointed by the Committee to the Crime and Disorder Working Group:

Councillors David Coldwell, Christine Costin, Duncan England, Jim Goddard, Frances Haigh, Kate Rowbottom, Jim Sanson

SO/8 Appointment of the Standing Working Groups (continued)

(c) Finance and Performance Working Group

The following Members were appointed by the Committee to the Finance and Performance Working Group:
Councillors John Bailey, John Chidlow, George Cockman, Leonard Crosbie, Brian Donnelly, Frances Haigh, Brian O'Connell, Jim Rae, Stuart Ritchie, Diana van der Klugt

(d) Social Inclusion Working Group

The following Members were appointed by the Committee to the Social Inclusion Working Group:
Councillors George Cockman, David Coldwell, Duncan England, Christian Mitchell, Godfrey Newman, Kate Rowbottom, David Skipp, Tricia Youtan

SO/9 **SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14 – DRAFT**

The Committee approved the Annual Report 2013/14 subject to a revision to note that the Social Inclusion Working Group was continuing its review of Poverty Amongst an Ageing Population.

The Committee noted the reference to Members who were appointed to outside bodies and how those Councillors were required to report back to Council by means of a brief written information report. The Committee suggested that the relevant Councillors be reminded of that requirement.

SO/10 **TO RECEIVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee discussed possible topics for inclusion on the Scrutiny and Overview work programme for 2014/15; these would be considered in greater detail at the meeting on 7th July 2014.

The following reviews were suggested:

- The impact of a potential reduction in the funding available via the Social Fund, and the role that credit unions could play.
- To request the Business Improvement Working Group to review the property management budget for the maintenance of the Council's major assets in the District.
- To examine why the Council does not currently have a Five Year Plan in relation to planning development.

SO/10 To receive any suggestions for the Scrutiny and Overview work programme (continued)

- The induction and training of new Councillors.
- To compare the Cabinet system for decision-making against a Committee system.

The Committee requested that the archive of Working Group reports should be easily accessible and suggested it could be examined for any previous discussions that may be relevant for the proposed review topics for 2014/15.

SO/11 **ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA BUT CONSIDERED URGENT**

There were no urgent items.

The meeting finished at 6.40 p.m. having commenced at 5.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN