

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held in the Council Chamber, The Symington Building,

Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough

26th November 2015

commencing at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Dann, Chairman

Councillors: Mrs Ackerley, Mrs Beesley-Reynolds, Bilbie, Bowles, Mrs Burrell, Chapman, Elliott, Evans, Galton, Graves, Hadkiss, Dr Hill, Modha, Nunn, Rickman, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Simpson, Spendlove-Mason, Mrs Wood and Tomlin.

Executive Portfolio Holders (left after Item, 4): Councillors Pain, Hallam, King, Liquorish & Mrs Page.

Officers: D. Atkinson, A. Hawkins, G. Keeping, N. Proudfoot (until 7.10 p.m.) & V. Wenham

292: APOLOGIES

Commission: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brodrick, Champion, Dunton, Everett, Hall, Hammond, Holyoak, Knowles, Rook and Tomlin.

Executive: An apology was received from Councillor Bannister.

293: MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMISSION

RESOLVED that: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny Commission held on 3rd September 2015 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

294: DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were made in respect of Members' Interests.

295: REPORT 1: PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' HALF-YEAR PERFORMANCE, 2015/16

Members received a report on the Council's performance against the 2015/16 Corporate Delivery Plan and Performance Indicators at the half-year position. A Summary of Key Performance Indicators contained the following categories: Key Activities, Status, Progress and Next Steps.

Questions and comments on the Council's performance during the first half of the 2015/16 year were invited. A summary of the subsequent discussion is set out below:

Question/Comment	Response
<u>Status of Key Activities (KAs):</u> Only three key activities are reported as being complete. Are officers satisfied that the remaining KAs are on track for completion?	Many of the KAs require the full twelve-month period to complete. If officers are concerned with progress, individual KAs are flagged as 'amber' or 'red'.
<u>KA 01.07:</u> How will the Council ensure that Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS) arrangements put in place are satisfactorily forward-managed?	The Council works in pro-active partnership with developers at a very early stage to identify a suitable package of measures to establish an on-going management regime.
<u>Re KA 05.05:</u> Is an update available following the sending of the letter to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) on 11 th August 2015?	LBGCE has acknowledged receipt of the letter and has indicated that a response will be made later in the year.
<u>Re KA 06.05:</u> What is the current situation with regard to the Car Parking Strategy?	A detailed analysis has been undertaken to provide an evidence-base for car parking in the District. Officers are now developing the Policy and further research is being conducted on specific points to inform this process.
<u>Re KA 06.08:</u> i) Has there been progress in resolving issues over the strategy for improved use of The Square, Market Harborough? ii) Are issues related to The Square dealt with under Special Expenses provisions?	i) There are still issues relating to the strategy that need to be resolved with Leicestershire County Council. Officers are working to resolve these as soon as possible, but this delay has not affected the holding of activities on The Square. ii) It was AGREED that officers would provide a reply to clarify the situation regarding Special Expenses.
<u>Re KA 13.04:</u> Could further information be made available on the Light Bulb Project?	The Project is led by Blaby District Council and is currently in its infancy. It was AGREED that a note on the Project would be circulated to all Councillors.
<u>Re Performance Indicator: Working days lost due to sickness absence:</u> What is the current situation regarding the new Attendance Management Policy and Procedure?	The new policy is more robust and a return to work interview now takes place immediately after each period of absence. Improvements in this performance indicator are anticipated as the new procedures continue to be implemented.

296: REPORT 2: THE SCRUTINY WORK-PLAN

Following on from discussion, the Scrutiny Commission RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Work-plan, attached at Appendix A to these Minutes, be approved.

The Meeting ended at 7.40 pm