

Contact Officer: Penny Bunker

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Monday 25th April 2016

Present: Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner (Chair)
Councillor David Hall
Councillor Carole Pattison

Apologies: Councillor Cahal Burke

In attendance: Councillor Smaje, Chair of the Health and Social Care
Scrutiny Panel
Richard Dunne, Principal Governance and Democratic
Engagement Officer
Councillor McBride, Cabinet Member for Transportation,
Skills, Jobs and Regional Affairs
Andrew Jackson, Principal Project Manager
Penny Bunker, Governance and Democratic Engagement
Manager
Alaina McGlade, Governance and Democratic
Engagement Officer

108 Membership of Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Burke.

109 Minutes of Previous Meetings

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 4 and 11 April 2016 be approved as a correct record.

110 Interests

No interests were declared.

111 Work Programme

The Committee noted that the work programme for 2015/16 was now complete. A table was presented to them to assist in identifying which areas of the work programme were required to be rolled forward for completion or follow up during the 2016/17 municipal year.

Councillor Pattison advised that she would like to add a further 2 items for consideration for the 2016/17 work programme; Highways Funding and Waste Management Contract Renewal and Strategy.

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Councillor D Hall also suggested overseeing the process of the Local Plan, including the effectiveness of consultation for the 2016/17 work programme.

RESOLVED - That the items as listed within the agenda, along with the additional items mentioned above be rolled forward for consideration for the 2016/17 work programme.

112 **Update on Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

Councillor Smaje, Lead Member for the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel attended the Committee, seeking agreement for the re-establishment of Kirklees Council's involvement in Joint Health Scrutiny Committees (JHSC's) to take place at the meeting of OSMC that is scheduled to follow the Annual Council meeting on 25 May 2016.

Councillor Smaje explained that the timescale in which the Calderdale and Kirklees JHSC will be required to respond to the consultation was challenging and that it was therefore imperative that the JHSC is able to accommodate any changes to its membership and continue with its work as early as possible in the new municipal year. Due to the volume of work currently being undertaken by the JHSC's, a minimal time delay in formally appointing representatives to the JHSC's would therefore be of great benefit.

RESOLVED -

(1) That Councillor Smaje be thanked for attending the meeting and providing an update on the work of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

(2) That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agrees to the reestablishment of the JHSC's as part of the Annual Meeting process.

(3) That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agrees that the political proportionality rules should continue to be waived in respect of Kirklees membership on the three statutory JHSC's.

(4) That thanks be conveyed to all members of the JHSC's for the hard work and dedication they have shown towards the work of the Panel during what has been an extremely busy year.

113 **Town Centre Strategy Update**

Councillor McBride, Cabinet Member for Transportation, Skills, Jobs and Regional Affairs and Andrew Jackson, Principal Project Manager attended the Committee to provide an update on the progress made against the action plan for the Town Centre Strategy.

Councillor McBride advised that the strategies for both Dewsbury and Huddersfield Town Centre differed. He explained that Section 106 money would be used to develop Dewsbury Town Centre, with various consultations being undertaken with partners regarding ways to increase the footfall within the Town Centre. Councillor McBride advised that some of the Section 106 money would be used to contribute to transport infrastructure in the area, such as a relief road. He explained that

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negotiations were currently taking place regarding transport link routes that were of strategic importance to Dewsbury.

Councillor McBride also advised that additional college provision within the Town Centre was also under consideration. He advised that this could potentially create a total provision within Dewsbury in regards to both sixth form and vocational training.

Councillor McBride moved on to explain that there were 2 key initiatives for Huddersfield Town Centre; improving connectivity and links with the University. He advised that meetings were ongoing with Network Rail regarding options for a new platform and second entrance to the station.

The report presented to the committee identified that people no longer visit town centres purely for retail purposes alone and that one of the future aspirations for town centres was to meet the needs of the modern market. It was advised that the detail of any strategies would be very dependent on partners and that partnerships were the way forward for developing vibrant town centres. One such area for potential discussion with partners was the future of museums and galleries.

Councillor D Hall asked for clarification on how bold and radical the Council could be when redesigning the town centres. Councillor McBride advised that money was a limitation but explained that any capital money available would go into the regeneration of the town centres. He advised that one of the strengths of Huddersfield was the access to the town centre provided by the ring road, but that this also acted as a moat when attempting to cross on foot. It was advised that the council were already in discussions regarding this but that the impact on traffic was a major consideration.

RESOLVED - That Councillor Peter McBride and Andrew Jackson be thanked for attending the meeting and providing an update on the Town Centre Strategy.