

Contact Officer: Steve Copley

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

POLICY COMMITTEE

Thursday 14th April 2016

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Nicola Turner
Councillor Sheikh Ullah

In attendance: None

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence noted on behalf of Cllrs Eric Firth, David Hall, Robert Light, Andrew Marchington, Marielle O'Neill and Andrew Palfreeman.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Policy Committee meeting on 7 March 2016 were approved.

John Heneghan, Head of Policy and Strategy, also provided an update on the steps which officers will take to implement the "Inclusion and diversity policy statement for 2016/17", which was approved by the Policy Committee, Cabinet and Council meetings in March 2016.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

The meeting was held in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Member Question Time

No questions were submitted.

7 Policy Committee - Programme of Work for 2015/2016

Following on from the Policy Committee on 7 March 2016, members considered a report which summarised the stage reached with the work of the following informal task and finish groups in 2015/16:-

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(i) Equality and diversity (Outcome reported to Cabinet (8 March) and Council (23 March))

(ii) Working with schools and their roles as hubs in the local communities (Chair - Cllr Carole Pattison)

(iii) Sustainable communities (Chair – Cllr Naheed Mather)

(iv) Passive housing (Chair – Cllr Andrew Cooper)

Cllrs Pattison, Mather and Cooper also provided updates on the work of their groups, which identified the stage reached in the preparation of each of the draft policy statements. The recommendations on each of these items, some of which are still work in progress, are summarised below.

Cllr Pattison, as Chair of the Policy Committee, also thanked members and officers for their work and their involvement in the task and finish group meetings in 2015/16. Members also expressed how much they had enjoyed the opportunities to meet and work together on an informal basis in these meetings.

RESOLVED – Members of the Policy Committee agreed that:-

(1) The progress report be received and noted

(2) The work of the task and finish groups, including their work on their draft policy statements, should progress, as follows:-

Working with schools and their roles as hubs in the local communities

The draft policy statement to be referred to Cabinet for consideration, as a draft and working document, following which it will be shared with each of the political groups. The outcome and the work on the final version of the policy statement will be reported back to Cabinet for approval. News of that decision will then be shared with Council.

Adrian Lythgo will also make arrangements to share news of the work on the draft policy statement with all councillors and their political groups in May 2016

Sustainable communities

The draft policy statement to be referred to Cabinet for consideration as a draft and working document, following which it should be released for public consultation and development via the District Committee meetings in 2016/17. The outcome and the work on the final version of the policy statement will be reported back to Cabinet for approval. News of that decision will then be shared with Council.

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Passive housing

Members and officers to complete a draft policy statement following their final task and finish group meeting in April 2016, so that this can be shared with members of the Policy Committee.

The draft policy statement should also be referred to the Cabinet for consideration and receipt at this stage, as it will need to be considered again alongside the work on the Local Plan in 2016/17.