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KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CORPORATE SCRUTINY PANEL

Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Present: Councillor Gulfam Asif (Chair)
Councillor James Homewood
Councillor Marielle O'Neill
Councillor Hilary Richards
Councillor Bill Armer

Co-optees Philip Chaloner
Linda Summers

In attendance: Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy & Public Health)
Kate McNicholas, Strategy & Policy Service Manager
Eamonn Croston, Head of Finance & Accountancy
James Anderson, Senior Finance Manager
Sarah Hill, Finance Manager

Apologies: Councillor John Taylor

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2018 be approved as a correct record.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

It was agreed that all agenda items be considered in public.

4 Corporate Plan

The Panel received an update from Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy & Public Health on the updated Corporate Plan for 2018-20.

The report provided information on the Corporate Plan and how it aims to build on previous approaches. It was advised that the final Plan would be considered for sign off by Council on 11 July 2018 and the launch of key content and messages to staff was planned for September 2018.

Rachel outlined the changes to this year's report and advised that the key shift in terms of emphasis and approach was the move from New Council to We're Kirklees. It was explained that New Council set out the Council's approach to transformation and that this was always scheduled to complete in March 2018. Rachel advised

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that We're Kirklees focusses on building the foundations for change and would build on the previous approach and the progress already made.

Rachel went on to advise that the key shift in terms of format was to provide more information on the shared outcomes, in terms of their focus and the actions being taken to deliver against them.

The Panel questioned why the document was an internal document when part of its emphasis was about working with partners. Rachel explained that a communication and engagement plan would support the document and that tailored engagement with partners would take place.

The Panel questioned how some of the outcomes were measured and Rachel advised that a key tool was the Live in Kirklees survey that was distributed every 3 years. The Panel requested a copy of the survey to enable them to review the content. Rachel advised that she would be keen to use the Panel to shape this area of citizen engagement.

The Panel also noted the mention of volunteers within the document and highlighted the difficulty in recruiting volunteers, especially in deprived areas. Rachel explained that this would fall under the People Strategy which was an area contained within the Panel's work programme.

The Panel queried how We're Kirklees had been arrived at. Rachel explained that it had been tested out with staff and they felt this helped to get key messages across. She further explained that it was felt that the public don't resonate with Kirklees as a place and a key message that was required to be communicated was recognising the difference in communities within Kirklees. The Panel agreed and outlined that the profile of Kirklees should be developed by using the different districts as a key selling point.

RESOLVED - That:

- (1) the Kirklees Council's Corporate Plan for 2018/20 be received and that the date for final sign off by Council on the 11 July 2018 be noted;
- (2) that the Live in Kirklees survey be shared with the Panel before its next distribution and the Panel incorporate a discussion on citizen engagement as part of this item;
- (3) that the Panel recommend that, as part of the Corporate Plan's communication and engagement plan, the profile of Kirklees should be developed by using the different districts as a key selling point.

5

Approach to Scrutiny - Prioritising & Planning

The Panel received a report from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee that outlined the principles and approach to scrutiny for 2018/19.

RESOLVED – That the Panel reviewed and acknowledged the principles within the guide to the approach to scrutiny for 2018/19.

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6 Setting the Work Programme for 2018/19

The Panel considered the items identified on the draft work programme for the Corporate Scrutiny Panel and considered which of the items to prioritise for inclusion in the final work programme to be approved by Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee on Monday 16th July 2018.

The Panel noted that the Lead Member had previously met with the Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy and Public Health and with the Cabinet Member responsible for the Corporate portfolio, to discuss the areas being considered for inclusion within the work programme and that they were in agreement with the suggestions put forward.

RESOLVED – That the following areas be approved for inclusion within the Corporate Scrutiny Panel’s work programme for 2018/19:

- Financial Monitoring
- Corporate Plan
- Access to Services
- Transformation Programme
- People Strategy
- Digital by Design Strategy
- Libraries Review
- Land Lettings Policy
- Democracy Commission (Lead Member briefings)

7 Future Meeting Dates

The future meeting dates of the Panel were outlined to the Panel.

RESOLVED - That the future meeting dates of the Panel be noted and approved.