

SHOPSHIRE COUNCIL

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2016

**2.00 - 3.55 pm in the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND**

Responsible Officer: Linda Jeavons

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Present

Councillor Claire Wild (Chairman)

Councillors Steve Davenport (Vice Chairman), Joyce Barrow, Gerald Dakin, Roger Evans, Vince Hunt and David Lloyd

21 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miles Kenny, Alan Mosley and Dave Tremellen.

22 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

23 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 9 June and 20 July 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

24 Public Question Time

There were no questions or petitions from members of the public.

25 Member Question Time

Councillor Roger Evans asked the following question and the written response was tabled.

"I note the message sent around to Members on behalf of the Enterprise & Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 7TH July re the setting up of a Task and Finish Group to look at some aspects of Planning carried out by Shropshire Council.

This was queried by myself at the Performance Scrutiny, as per the minutes, and it was agreed that a joint T&F would be set up to look at the whole process of planning with a view of holding their first meeting in September.

Since the last meeting I have sent two emails regarding this to officers (Monday 1st August and Tuesday 30 August 2016). Neither message have been acknowledged or answered.

Hence because of the none reply to my e-mailed question I ask this question at today's scrutiny.

Can I please be told when members will be asked if they wish to be members of this joint T&F group. I note that on the future work programme the following sentence. Considering the statement which appears in the minutes can we be told when the first meeting is to be actually held."

The following response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing, Regulatory Services and Environment was tabled at the meeting:

"I apologise that Councillor Evans has not received a reply to his requests to date. meeting is being arranged shortly with the Scrutiny Chairman to confirm the programme for the Task and Finish Group and we anticipate the first meeting to be convened in the near future."

Following a discussion, it was **AGREED:**

- That the joint Planning Task and Finish Group comprising Members of the Enterprise and Growth Scrutiny Committee and the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee (as agreed at the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee held on 20 July 2016) be established and now cover all aspects of Planning;
- All Members be welcomed and encouraged to attend the meetings of the Task and Finish Group and take part at the Chair's discretion; and
- Terms of Reference and a forward plan of dates to be agreed at the first meeting of the Planning Task and Finish Group.

26 Council Tax - Empty Property Charging Policy and Responsibility for Banding

At this juncture, Members considered a paper circulated by the Commissioning Data Analysis & Intelligence Manager at the meeting and entitled "Council Tax – Empty Property charging policy and responsibility for banding" (copy attached to the signed minutes).

In the ensuing debate, and in noting the potential loss of income that resulted from 900+ empty properties being empty, it was:

RESOLVED: That a further update on Council Tax – Empty Properties be reported to a future meeting.

27 Additional Information for Quarter 1 Performance Report 2016/17

The Commissioning Support Manager was in attendance and presented the report.

Members considered the presentation and individual slides relating to:

- Leisure Service Visitors
- Library Service Visitors
- Theatre Severn & Market Hall Visitors
- Visits to Outdoor Recreation Centres
- Visitor Attraction Visitors
- Number of People Killed or Seriously Injured on Roads
- Number of Young Claimants
- Rate of Looked After Children
- Rate of Children with a Child Protection Plan
- Quarterly Volunteering Hours
- Standards for Littering
- Standards for Detritus
- Household Recycling and Reuse Rates
- Delayed Transfer – Number of Patients
- Residential Admissions – Aged 65+

With reference to the consultation on Customer Service Points Opening Times Review, Members noted that the existing and proposed opening times for each of the individual locations, ie Shrewsbury, Ludlow, Oswestry, Market Drayton, Bridgnorth and Whitchurch were listed under each venue on the consultation pages on Shropshire Council's website.

RESOLVED: That, the key underlying and emerging issues detailed in the report and appendices and the new way of online reporting from quarter 2 via the Performance Portal and the Commissioning Support Unit, be noted.

28 **Big Conversation Action Plan**

The Commissioning Support Manager was in attendance and presented the report.

Members considered the Big Conversation Action Plan and the recommendations and responses as set out Appendix 1 to the report. Members stressed the importance of maintaining a continued dialogue, negotiations and good relations with Town/Parish Councils.

RESOLVED:

That, the key underlying and emerging issues detailed in the report and appendices, be noted; and regular updates be presented to this Committee.

29 **Corporate Plan 2016/17 to 2018/19**

The Commissioning Support Manager was in attendance and presented the report.

In the ensuing debate, Members noted that the Financial Strategy Budget Setting Task and Finish Group would consider the Strategic Action Plans, which were

currently being formulated, during October. These Action Plans would be shared with all Members sometime in October.

RESOLVED: That a Task and Finish Group comprising Members from all over the County be set-up to consider feedback received from staff and Members and to make changes to the draft Corporate Plan and make evidence based recommendations to Cabinet on changes they believe should be made.

30 Performance Management Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

RESOLVED: That the following be added to the Work Programme

- Establishment of a Corporate Plan Task and Finish Group;
- Establishment of a joint Planning Task and Finish Group comprising Members of the Enterprise and Growth Scrutiny Committee and the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee (as agreed at the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee held on 20 July 2016) to cover all aspects of Planning; and
- Council Tax – Empty Properties - update

31 Date/Time of next meeting of the Committee

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee will be held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 16 November 2016 in the Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: