

Minutes

of the Meeting of the

Community and Corporate Organisation Policy & Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday, 13th March 2018

held at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

Meeting Commenced: 2.30 pm Meeting Concluded: 4.30pm

Councillors:

P Terry Porter (Chairman)

P Sarah Codling (Vice-Chairman)

P Peter Burden

P James Clayton

P Bob Garner

P John Ley-Morgan

P Jerry O'Brien

P Martin Williams

(substituting for Richard Nightingale)

P Mark Canniford

- Peter Crew

- Colin Hall

A Richard Nightingale

- David Oyns

P: Present

A: Apologies for absence submitted

Other Councillors in attendance: Charles Cave, David Jolley

Officers in attendance: Mandy Bishop, Andy Brisley, Jenie Eastman, Dee Mawn, Philippa Penney, Howard Potheary, Colin Russell, Samantha Usher.

Others in attendance: Brian Ashby (Biffa Regional Manager)

CCO Declarations of Interest by Members (Agenda Item 3)

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None

CCO Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th November 2017 (Agenda Item 4)

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Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

CCO 18 Public Space Protection Orders (Agenda Item 6)

The Environmental Health Manager presented the report, summarising actions taken since the Public Space Protection Orders came into force in October 2017.

There had been no public challenge received within the six week challenge period. Sixty (60) Fixed Penalty Notice books had been issued to staff already, with another 60 to follow. The number of tickets being issued per week had increased, and Members discussed further detail of the interventions that had taken place.

The Assistant Director, Development and Environment highlighted other alternative delivery models used by other local authorities. However, North Somerset also has tourist, seaside locations, which would need to be taken into consideration in agreeing any local approach. Members agreed that any approach should not pose a deterrent to tourism.

Concluded: that the Panel:

1. noted the update on the early implementation Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) and associated ASB tools and powers across North Somerset;
2. considered views on a revised Fixed Penalty Notice Policy in relation to PSPOs, and agreed that officers should regularly review and update the policy in accordance with changes to legislation and best practice;
3. considered views on the council's continued engagement with the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) moving forward and the introduction of a Memorandum of Understanding between the police and North Somerset Council
4. discussed next steps in light of revised guidance issued to Local Authorities on the continued use of the tools and powers.

CCO 19 Recycling and Waste Services Contract Performance (Agenda Item 9)

The Chairman agreed to a change in agenda order.

The Recycling and Waste Services Manager presented the report as an update since November. Members were informed that service levels had increased owing to a reduction in staff sickness, and improved use of PDAs and more efficient tools for supervisors.

Members were also informed that positive feedback had been received from the public following the Christmas period.

The reroute of kerbside collections was now scheduled to take place in June after an initial postponement and a communications plan was underway to give advance notice to service users of how the changes would be affecting them.

Members raised concerns regarding fly tipping locally and sought reassurance as to the use of prosecutions where appropriate.

Concluded: that the panel noted the progress being made regarding the waste contract, and requested to be kept updated regarding fly tipping and the use of prosecutions.

CCO 20 Community Access Review (Agenda Item 7)

Members received a report from the Children's Centre Manager regarding the progress of the community access review. The recent budget saving changes in the service, notably the co-locating of the libraries and children's centres in Pill Worle and Yatton, had received positive feedback from service users.

Further review is scheduled, in view of required financial savings. This will include the closure of Banwell Children's centre and the reconfiguration of the children's centre in Long Ashton, and service changes in Yatton and Pill, to include outreach services.

The Libraries, Information and Customer Services Manager then gave reference to the library services, stating that the financial savings would predominantly be coming from a reduction in staff and the introduction of an extended self-service system. This was something currently offered in Portishead, and was in the process of being extended to Worle, Yatton and Winscombe.

Members were informed that further savings of approximately £250,000 were required over the next 2 years, including a review of Nailsea and Clevedon. Members remained reassured that plans are in place to minimise the impact on services users.

Concluded: that the Panel:

1. Noted the update on the changes currently being made to the Children's centres and library services.
2. Discussed the possible implications of the reshaping of the services whilst appreciating the need for financial savings.

CCO 21 Development of a Joint Community Safety Plan (Agenda Item 8)

The Community Safety Manager presented the report to members, outlining the 3 main priorities of the Joint Community Safety Plan – building strong resilient communities, tackling crime types and locations of particular concern and supporting vulnerable victims. Each priority had a set of actions accompanying them, and the emphasis was on effective partnership working.

This was a local plan stemming from the Avon and Somerset plan as previously considered by the Panel. In discussing the data, Members considered that it would be helpful to be provided with actual figures to give context, and also feedback on any outcomes.

Members discussed preferences regarding the plan's implementation and their continued engagement. Members also agreed to a briefing focusing on the broad range of issues underlying criminal justice.

Concluded: that the Panel:

1. Discussed the findings of the report presented to them;
2. Requested further detail of the actual figures in place of statistics and feedback on any outcomes;
3. Considered the benefits of a workshop aimed at identifying the key areas underlying criminal justice.

CCO 22 The Panel's Work Plan (Agenda Item 9)

The Scrutiny Specialist Practitioner presented the work plan for discussion. Members agreed to include the upcoming variation to the parks and street scene contract on the work plan. Agreement was also given for a working group to engage with the planned field activity review.

Concluded: that the Panel's work plan be updated accordingly

Chairman
