

# SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date:** 19 June 2017

**Venue:** East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors:- Jake Vowles (Chairman)

Helen Howell Janet Pinnock  
Dorothy Maxwell

## **38. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillors John Farrar and David Jenney, who had both ceased to be members of the Committee following the Annual Council meeting, for their contribution to the work of the Committee. The Chairman also welcomed Councillors Marika Hillson and Lance Jones who had been appointed to the Committee.

The Chairman referred to the change made to the meeting date, which had originally been scheduled to be held on 7 June 2017 and had been postponed due to the General Election taking place the following day. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) had been invited to meet with the Committee on 7 June, but was unable to attend on the revised date. Although the local Inspector had offered to attend the meeting, the Chairman considered that the Committee should meet with the PCC to discuss policing policy in the District and efforts would continue to be made to arrange this.

The Community Transport Scrutiny Review Group would submit its report to the next meeting. In response to issues raised, it was confirmed that queries relating to commercial bus services would need to be raised with the operator directly.

## **39. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Helen Howell be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee for the year 2017/18.

## **40. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 6 March 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rosalie Beattie, Marika Hillson, Roger Powell and Geoff Shacklock.

**42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**43. QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3**

There were no questions submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10.3.

**44. UPDATE ON CALL-IN OF POLICY DECISIONS**

The Committee was presented with an update on the activities of the Council's policy committees and sub-committees and decisions taken since the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee. No decisions made by the Finance Sub-Committee, Personnel Sub-Committee, Policy & Resources Committee or Planning Policy Committee had been required to be called in.

It was noted that the Committee's previous spokesperson for matters relating to the Finance Sub-Committee, Councillor David Jenney, was no longer a member of the Committee and a replacement was required.

**RESOLVED:**

- i) the update on the call-in of policy decisions be noted.
- ii) Councillor Helen Howell be appointed as the Committee spokesperson in respect of decisions made by the Finance Sub-Committee

**45. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORTING – QUARTER 4 2016/17**

The Corporate Support Manager presented a report detailing the performance of the Council in respect of agreed indicators and other statistics for Quarter 4 2016/17.

It was noted that a public consultation exercise relating to enforcement action on irresponsible dog ownership had recently been completed and the results would need to be analysed. Should any orders be proposed relating to dogs off lead as a result, these would be reported to the Policy and Resources Committee.

With reference to household waste sent for composting, it was recognised that there was no green waste during the December to March period and the target for this quarter ought to reflect this.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**46. WORK PLAN**

The Chairman referred to the Committee's Work Plan attached to the minutes of the previous meeting. In addition to continuing efforts to meet with the PCC mentioned earlier and the planned contact with representatives of the County Council's Highways Department to discuss issues relating to planning applications, a new

concerned had been identified in relation to the selection of traffic diversion routes. A separate invitation would be sent for representatives to meet with the Committee at the September 2017 meeting, or possibly at the December 2017 meeting to discuss this.

It had not been possible to bring a report on the consultation on paediatric cardiac unit coverage in the District to this meeting as shown in the Work Plan and it was noted that the County Council had objected to the proposed closure of the unit at Glenfield Hospital which provided coverage for the East Northamptonshire District.

In view of the timescale for submitting representations which would expire in July 2017, it was agreed that the Executive Director, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, submit representations supporting the County Council's opposition to the proposed closure.

**Chairman**