

Executive Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on Tuesday, 8th May, 2012.

Present: Cllr Ken Lupton (Chairman), Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Robert Gibson, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Miss Tina Large, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Mick Stoker

Officers: Liz Hanley (CESC); Julie Grant, Tanya Harrison, Judith Trainer, Margaret Waggott (LD)

Also in attendance: No other persons were present

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Barbara Inman, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey

1 Evacuation Procedure

The evacuation plan was noted.

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr O'Donnell declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to the Cleveland Fire Authority - Task and Finish Review item due to the fact that she was the Chairman of Cleveland Fire Authority and drew a special responsibility allowance.

Cllr Cherrett declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to The EIT Review of School Effectiveness item due to the fact that she was a member of the management committee of the PRU referred to in the report and her son was a school Governor in the Borough

Cllr Laing declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to The EIT Review of School Effectiveness item due to the fact that he had a relative who worked for the Authority.

Cllr Kirton declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to the EIT Review of Commissioned Carers and independent Living Services item due to the fact that he was a member of Bridges and PANIC which are funded by Stockton Borough Council

3 Minutes for Signing - 31st January 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st January 2012 were signed by the Chair.

4 Minutes of Previous Meeting - 27th March 2012

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2012.

AGREED that:

1. The minutes be approved.

5 EIT Review of Legal Services - Action Plan for Agreed Recommendations

Members considered the Action Plan setting out how the agreed recommendations from the Officer led EIT Review of Legal Services would be implemented and target dates for completion.

Discussion took place regarding linkage and automation of Freedom of Information and Environment Information Requests. Members requested clarification of savings and costs.

Arising from discussion, Members requested an update report on North East Purchasing Organisation (NEPO) advising on its effectiveness.

The Chair advised that a Task and Finish Group could be set up to look at NEPO and the Association of North East Councils (ANEC) could be asked to provide a report.

AGREED that the Action Plan be endorsed and a progress report on the actions be submitted to the Committee in December 2012.

6 EIT Review of Commissioned Carers and Independent Living Services

Members were provided with the final report of the Corporate and Social Inclusion Select Committee following their EIT Review of Commissioned Carers and Independent Living Services.

The Chair and the Head of Adult Strategy highlighted key points and recommendations within the report.

Discussion took place regarding the wide scope of the review and developing more robust commissioning arrangements for the services within the scope of the review.

AGREED that the report be forwarded to Cabinet for approval.

7 EIT Review of School Effectiveness

Members were provided with the final report of Children and Young People Select Committee following their EIT Review of School Effectiveness.

The key points and recommendations were highlighted from the report.

Discussion took place regarding the consultation that had taken place, the timescale and method of consultation. Members also discussed overall performance of schools in the Borough.

AGREED that the report be forwarded to Cabinet for approval.

8 Cleveland Fire Authority - Task and Finish Review

Members of Executive Scrutiny Committee discussed a request to include a review of Cleveland Fire Authority's considerations of alternative business models, including the creation of a Social Enterprise to deliver fire and rescue

services on a commissioned basis for the 2012/13 Scrutiny work programme.

Volunteers were sought to form the membership of the Task and Finish Group.

AGREED that:

1. The report be noted.

2. Councillors Gibson, Kirton, Laing and Johnson will form the membership of the Task and Finish Group to review the Cleveland Fire Authority's proposals and options.

9 Gated Communities - Referral from Council

Following the inclusion of a review of Gated Communities in the 2012/13 work programme, consideration was given to identifying a Task and Finish Group to review gated communities.

AGREED that:

1. The report be noted.

2. Councillors Gibson, Kirton, Laing and Johnson be appointed members of the Task and Finish group to review Gated Communities.

10 Forward Plan

Members were provided with the Statutory Forward Plan for 1st May 2012 to 31st August 2012.

AGREED that the Statutory Forward Plan be noted.

11 Report on Chairs Updates

Members were provided with an update from each of the Select Committee Chairs' on their current and future review topics.

AGREED that the Chairs' updates be noted.