

# Executive Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on Tuesday, 25th November, 2014.

**Present:** Cllr Ken Lupton (Chair); Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Robert Gibson, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Maurice Perry and Cllr Mick Stoker.

**Officers:** J Trainer, P K Bell (LD).

**Also in attendance:** None.

**Apologies:** Cllr Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Tina Large, Cllr Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Stephen Walmsley and Cllr Mary Womphrey.

## **1 Evacuation Procedure**

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

## **2 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Lupton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 - Forward Plan as he was a private landlord.

## **3 Draft Minutes - 6th October 2014**

Consideration was given to draft minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2014.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

## **4 Minutes for Signature - 5th August 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2014 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **5 Scrutiny Work Programme - Referrals**

Consideration was given to a report on Scrutiny Work Programme - Referrals.

The report presented requests from Council and Cabinet to add two additional scrutiny reviews to be undertaken in the 2014/15 Select Committee Work Programme.

On 9 October 2014 Cabinet received a report on Children's Social Care and Activity and Performance. As part of consideration of this item Cabinet agreed that a Children and Young People Select Committee Task and Finish Group be established to review how robust the Council and its Multi-Agency Partners' procedures were with regard to children deemed to be at risk of child sexual exploitation and that the review involved all partner agencies. It was proposed that given the workload of the Children and Young People Committee, a task and finish group be established from the Select Committee's membership to undertake the work.

In addition, Council on 22nd October 2014 agreed that a Task and Finish scrutiny exercise take place by the Regeneration and Transport Select Committee to examine arrangements for the maintenance of the Boroughs' main bridges and to provide reassurances and recommendations on those arrangements. Regeneration and Transport would have capacity to undertake a review from January onwards after their review of Roads and Footpaths concludes.

AGREED that:-

1. A Task and Finish Group be established from the Children and Young People Select Committee to review how robust the Council and its Multi-Agency Partners' procedures were with regard to children deemed to be at risk of child sexual exploitation and that the review involved all partner agencies.
2. The Regeneration and Transport Select Committee examine arrangements for the maintenance of the Boroughs' main bridges and provide reassurances and recommendations on those arrangements.

## **6 Report on Chairs Updates**

Members were provided with updates on Select Committee reviews.

During the updates Members discussed the publicity that was given to the work of the Select Committees. Members felt that the Select Committee's reviews and particularly the outcome of reviews should be given more publicity in Stockton News and by press release. This would help raise the profile of the good work of the Select Committees/Council and raise awareness about the important role of Members on Select Committees in scrutinising the quality of services provided.

AGREED that the updates be noted.

## **7 Forward Plan**

Members were provided with the Statutory Forward Plan 1st November 2014 - 28th February 2014.

AGREED that the Forward Plan be noted.