

Executive Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on Tuesday, 25th June, 2019.

Present: Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley (Chairman), Cllr Chris Clough (Vice Chairman), Cllr Chris Barlow, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Lynn Hall, Cllr Tony Hampton, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E, Cllr Matthew Vickers, Cllr Paul Weston

Officers: Nigel Hart, Peter Mennear, Judy Trainer, Gary Woods (DMD).

Also in attendance: N/A.

Apologies: Submitted on behalf of Councillors Cherrett, Dalgarno, Dixon and Tunney.

ESC 1/19 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

ESC 2/19 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

ESC 3/19 Minutes of the meeting which was held on 19th February 2019

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Executive Scrutiny Committee held on 19th February 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive Scrutiny Committee be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

ESC 4/19 Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20 - Selection of In-Depth Scrutiny Reviews

The Committee received a brief overview of its role, prior to considering a report that detailed the suggested Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20.

The process for work programme setting was identified using the PICK system. The Scrutiny Liaison Forum (SLF) had prior to the local elections been invited to identify priorities for scrutiny reviews for consideration; the details of which were set out at Appendix 2, and these had been agreed by this Committee at its meeting held in February 2019. The Committee also agreed that an emergency issue relating to the Protection of Vulnerable Older People Living at Home would be immediately commenced by the Crime & Disorder Select Committee. It was proposed that this work be continued by the same Committee in the new Municipal Year. It was suggested however that the proposed review of Action Fraud by the Committee be carried out immediately after the review of Protecting Vulnerable Older People, instead of Roadside Advertising.

The Committee agreed to add SWIS Accommodation review to the People Select Committee Work Programme as a Task & Finish Work Group.

Members also suggested that consideration be given to the review of Domestic Abuse by the Children & Young People Select Committee being carried out as a higher priority. It was agreed that this review could be carried out by a Task &

Finish Group of the Committee alongside the review of Careers Provision; the groundwork for which had already been prepared.

RESOLVED that subject to the amendments above the scrutiny work programme be endorsed.

**ESC
5/19** **Overview and Scrutiny - End-of-Term Report 2015-2019**

The Committee noted and welcomed the Committee's End of Term Report 2015-2019.

Members queried where matters regarding progress of actions from previous reviews would be monitored, citing an example of a perceived deterioration in the numbers of people parking on grass verges. It was noted that the Select Committee that carried out the review would receive an annual update on progress, and that this particular review recognised that parking improvement schemes often facilitated on-street parking measures.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The Committee's End of Term Report 2015-2019 be noted and be referred to Cabinet and Council for consideration.
2. The Committee's appreciation for the support received from Democratic Services in delivering the Scrutiny Programme during this period, be noted.

**ESC
6/19** **Statutory Forward Plan 1st June 2019 to 30th September 2019 - There are no Key Decisions to report for this period**

It was noted that there were currently no Key Decisions identified for consideration within the Statutory Forward Plan for the period 1st June 2019-30th September 2019.

**ESC
7/19** **Chairs Update and Executive Scrutiny Work Programme 2019-2020**

The Committee noted its Work Programme for 2019/20.

As part of the regular Chairs Update reporting to this Committee, Members requested that these updates be summarised by the respective Chairs at each meeting.

An invitation was also extended by the Chair & Vice Chair of this Committee to meet with the Chairs of each Select Committee on a regular basis, and it was agreed that this could be carried out quarterly.

RESOLVED that the Executive Scrutiny Work Programme be noted.

**ESC
8/19** **Scrutiny Developments**

The Committee noted the latest Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) had also updated its guidance; a link to which would be circulated to the Committee, and Scrutiny Officers had also updated and circulated the Council's own Scrutiny Toolkit.

The valuable contribution that Scrutiny was able to make was highlighted by the fact that, as a consequence of an earlier Scrutiny Review, defibrillator devices had been introduced in various locations around the High Street, including Stockton Central library. It was noted that lives had been saved thanks to their use.

RESOLVED that the update on Scrutiny Developments be noted.