

People Select Committee

A meeting of People Select Committee was held on Monday, 27th July, 2020.

Present: Cllr Marilyn Surtees (Chair), Mrs Jean O'Donnell (Vice Chair), Cllr Helen Atkinson, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Lynn Hall (sub for Cllr Stefan Houghton), Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Norma Stephenson (sub for Cllr Barry Woodhouse), Cllr Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE.

Officers: Julie Auffret (F&BS), Beverley Bearne (EGDS), James Burrell (HR, L&C), Joanne Dolan (F&BS), Sophie Haste (HR, L&C), Rebecca Saunders-Thompson (MD), Margie Stewart-Piercy (HR, L&C), Judy Trainer (MD).

Also in attendance: Gareth Aungiers, Rachel Maddison (Xentrall), George Reed (BMBF).

Apologies: Cllr Stefan Houghton and Cllr Barry Woodhouse.

PEO 1/20 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

PEO 2/20 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the minutes from the meetings held on 2 March and 16 March 2020.

AGREED that the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

PEO 3/20 **Scrutiny Review of Local Council Tax Support Scheme**

The Scrutiny Officer presented a revised scope and project plan for the review which reflected issues arising from COVID-19 and revised timescales.

AGREED that the revised scope and project plan be approved.

PEO 4/20 **Scrutiny Review of Public Consultation**

The Scrutiny Officer presented a revised scope and project plan for the review which reflected issues arising from COVID-19 and revised timescales.

This was the second evidence gathering session for the scrutiny review of public consultation.

Members received a presentation from officers from HR, Legal and Communications and Economic Growth and Development Services. Contributions were also received from a representative from Bright Minds Big Futures and the Viewpoint Panel. The key topics of the presentation were as follows:

- Evidence Session on 16 March – Recap
- Evidence Session on 27 July – Overview
- The impact of Covid-19: Public Consultation
- Bright Minds Big Futures (BMBF): Public Consultation
- The Viewpoint Panel: Public Consultation
- Let's talk about our towns: public consultation case study

- Let's talk about our towns: Consultation overview
- Let's talk about our towns: Billingham, Ingleby Barwick, Norton, Thornaby, and Yarm.
- Let's talk about our towns: Next Steps
- Evidence Session 28 September – Look Ahead

The main issues discussed were as follows:

- The inclusion of the scrutiny of Stockton News as a platform for public consultation was discussed.
- Members asked if the first BMBF survey targeted a particular age group. Members were informed that this survey was for 11-19 year olds.
- Members were informed that the breakdown of the town centre consultation results would be provided to the Committee.
- Members discussed the issue of car parking across the Borough which also featured in several of the town consultation results overviews.
- Members asked if readership figures for the latest online edition of the Stockton News was available. Officers informed members this information would be provided to the Committee.
- Members asked for further details about the issue of 'better medical facilities' which emerged from the Ingleby Barwick results overview. Members were informed that only a small percentage of respondents had raised this issue which concerned the merger of two private medical companies.
- Members were informed that SBC had a positive working relationship with the two town centres, Thornaby and Billingham, which were privately owned. Officers will liaise with these owners about the results of the consultations and the next steps.

AGREED that:

- 1) The revised scope and project plan be approved.
- 2) the information be noted.
- 3) the further information be provided as requested.

**PEO
5/20**

Work Programme 2020-2021

Consideration was given to Work Programme.

An informal briefing session on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme would be held on 14 August 2020.

An additional People Select Committee Meeting would be held on 24 August 2020.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.

PEO
6/20

Chairs Update

The Chair had nothing to update.