

People Select Committee

A meeting of People Select Committee was held on Monday, 14th February, 2022.

Present: Cllr Marilyn Surtees (Chair), Cllr Jean O'Donnell (Vice Chair), Cllr Niall Innes, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Maurice Perry (sub for Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE), Cllr Lee Spence, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Julia Whitehill (sub for Cllr John Gardner), Cllr Barry Woodhouse

Officers: Beccy Brown (HR, Legal and Comms), Garry Cummings (Finance, Development and Business Services), Reuben Kench (The Environment, Culture, Leisure and Events), Ian Miles (Xentrall), Margaret Waggott, Nigel Hart, Sharon McDonald, Judy Trainer (Admin, Democratic and Electoral Services)

Also in attendance: Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Bob Cook

Apologies: Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE

PEO 31/21 **Evacuation Procedure**

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

PEO 32/21 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

PEO 33/21 **Minutes**

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

PEO 34/21 **Overview Reports 2022**

The Select Committee received overview reports from Corporate Directors and Cabinet Members in relation to the following services:

- Administration, Democratic and Electoral Services
- Finance, Development and Business Services
- HR, Legal and Communications
- The Environment, Culture, Leisure and Events
- Xentrall Shared Services

Issues highlighted by Members and discussed were as follows:

- Arrangements were being made to locally deliver the LGAs "Be a Councillor" campaign ahead of the local elections in 2023
- The condition of the Town Hall was an issue and it was acknowledged that the layout of the Council Chamber no longer met modern meeting requirements; longer-term options were being considered as part of the wider accommodation proposals
- Staff absence due to stress, anxiety and mental health issues was raised. A confidential counselling service for staff was delivered by Redcar and Cleveland Mind and provision was just meeting demand; the service was soon to be re-tendered, and the contract would also be extended to include early help, advice and support
- The success of the apprenticeship programme was highlighted
- Members expressed support for the mobile library service and purchase

of a new vehicle

- The Council would have an enabling role in respect of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and guidance would soon be issued to all Councillors to help them support community celebrations
- Members commended all of the services on their hard work and achievements, in particular how all services had pulled together to deliver the Council's Covid response

AGREED that the reports be noted.

**PEO
35/21** **Scrutiny Review of LGPS**

The Select Committee reviewed the draft final report following the task and finish review of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Members commented on the importance of stressing to staff the additional benefits of joining the scheme and supported the suggestion from the staff survey for an annual awareness session.

AGREED that the final report be approved for submission to Cabinet.

**PEO
36/21** **Chair's Update and Select Committee Work Programme**

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.