

## People Select Committee

A meeting of the People Select Committee was held on Monday, 16 January 2023.

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

**Officers:** Fiona Attewill, Rebecca Saunders-Thompson (CS); Neil Mitchell (CS, E&C); Chris Renahan, Margie Stewart-Piercy (FD&R)

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Nigel Cooke (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing)

**Apologies:** Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Lee Spence

### 1 Evacuation Procedure

The Committee noted the evacuation and housekeeping procedure.

### 2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 October 2022

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

### 4 Monitoring the impact of Previously Agreed Recommendations – Progress report for the previously completed Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Task and Finish review.

The Select Committee considered a progress update including assessments of progress following implementation of the recommendations from the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) review. The overall aim of the review had been to understand the causes of the fall in LGPS membership so that, as far as possible, any issues could be addressed, and the workforce encouraged to put in place suitable pension arrangements. This was the first time the update had been presented to the Committee. There were five outstanding recommendations.

The Committee requested the following further information:

- Reasons for the lower take-up of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) within Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's (SBC) Children's Services.

AGREED that:

- 1) the Progress Update be noted and the assessments of progress be confirmed.
- 2) the further information be provided as requested.

### 5 Monitoring the Impact of Previously Agreed Recommendations – Progress report

### **for the previously completed Disability Inclusive Borough review.**

The Select Committee considered a progress update including assessments of progress following implementation of the recommendations from the Disability Inclusive Borough review. The overall aim of the review had been to explore how Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council could contribute to a more disability inclusive borough. This was the first time the update had been presented to the Committee. There were 13 outstanding recommendations.

The Committee requested the following further information:

- Members to have access to the online disability training modules for information purposes.
- Confirm if local businesses were aware that British Sign Language posters and cards were available to collect from Customer Services Centres.
- Investigate if yellow paint could be applied to older dropped kerbs to assist those with visual impairments.

AGREED that:

- 1) the Progress Update be noted and the assessments of progress be confirmed.
- 2) the further information be provided as requested.

## **6 Scrutiny Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future**

Consideration was given to the draft final report and recommendations.

Members and Officers paid tribute to one of the review's contributors, Stephen Shaw, Environment & Greenspace Project Officer, who passed away in December 2022. It was agreed that a tribute would also be included in the final report.

Officers highlighted the review's key findings and recommendations.

The Committee requested that:

- Recommendation 3 be amended to include reference to entry level 'green' jobs.

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

## **7 Chair's Update and Work Programme**

Consideration was given to the Work Programme.

The next meeting would be held on 20 March 2023.

AGREED that the Work Programme and Chair's update be noted.