

REPORT OF THE POLICY AND CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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PORTFOLIO COORDINATING

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Progress of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Set out below is the progress made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees on their work programmes during the December Cycle of meetings.

1. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Committee met on Monday 11th December 2017 and looked a number of topics to progress their work programme.

The issues considered by the Committee and the progress made are as follows:-

Youth Service

The Committee continue to give a voice to the work being carried out by our Youth MP and Deputies supported by the Youth Service. The Committee noted that they have been very busy and that they continue to develop work programmes that lead the way both in the North- West and nationally. Their work programmes include working on the development of the curriculum to prepare for life and seeking to shape Mental Health Services to meet the needs of Young People. The campaign to gain entitlement to vote at the age of 16 is also a key theme of the work of the Youth Service.

The Committee noted that the work on Mental Health Services would complement the work being undertaken by the Committee jointly with the Health and Adults OSC and agreed to include the work of the Youth Forum in this review to ensure that the needs of young people were addressed.

Leisure Services- Refresh Update

The Committee looked at the work of the Executive Member for Leisure and Culture in relation to the Refresh programme. The Committee focused on how the introduction of nominal charging had affected take up of leisure activities in comparison to previous years and prior to the introduction of charges. The Committee also received information in response to their request relating to the implications for the most vulnerable young people. The Committee requested that the Executive Member examine if there were any ways that they could ascertain why people who used leisure facilities before and were not doing so now and the reasons for this. This will give the Committee a picture of how the introduction of charges has

influenced usage by the most deprived families. The Committee can then consider recommendations on strategies to mitigate this in the future.

The Committee will also consider the positive impact of the recent success in gaining funding from Sport England for East Lancashire and how this will affect delivery of leisure Services in the Borough.

Funding Changes for Schools.

The Committee received an update on funding changes and the implications for schools in the borough. The possible implications for the schools were outlined and the actions being taken to mitigate risk should the projections pan out as expected. The final allocations would be confirmed on 18th December 2017 and allocations reported to the schools forum on 11th January 2018. Individual school allocations would be sent to them on 28th February 2018. The Committee agreed to keep the funding allocation to schools and the issues that arise under review.

Ofsted of Children's Services.

The Committee noted that the Full Council was to consider the Ofsted review that had taken place recently. This meant that the Committee in January would not be able to consider the report as it met prior to that date. With the agreement of the Committee the meeting would be postponed until after the date of the Council Forum and the Committee would consider the recommendations outlined in the Ofsted report, together with any issues referred to it as part of their review.

2. Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

The Regeneration and Neighbourhoods OSC met on 6th December and progressed their work programme through consideration of the issue of Community Safety, Community Relations and Cohesion. The Committee looked at the work that was being undertaken and the key risks and issues that were being addressed. The Committee made the following recommendations' that will be taken forward into their final report on the topic.

1. That the Committee endorse the Social Integration Strategy.
2. That the important work of elected members be noted and that members be reminded of their roles.
3. That the training needs of members be addressed to ensure that they have the tools to do the job.
4. That the aim for every directorate to own and feed into the social integration action plan be supported.
5. That the Committee request that a report be submitted setting out examples of the work that is taking place in directorate, the steps to deliver this work, how they will measure success and a time-line over which this will be delivered setting out key milestones.

6. That the Committee note the need for strong Leadership within the Council to continue to champion and support integration and cohesion.
7. That the Committee support the commitment to work with the government on new integration programmes into the future for the benefit of the borough.

The Committee will continue its work programme at the next meeting and will examine road safety and issues associated with this area of provision and enforcement. The Committee will also review the income from Parking

3. Health and Adults OSC

The Committee met on 4th December and received presentations on the Local Delivery Partnership. The partnership would transform health delivery in the region and deliver change across Lancashire and South Cumbria. The partnership had been identified as advanced by NHS England and demonstrating the strength of the collective efforts of organisation in the region to maintain and improve performance and provided a strong platform to build on.

The Committee also received information on the Pennine Lancashire Together a Healthier Future Transformation Programme. The programme was a continuing development of detailed design and proposed implementation plans. It also progressed the development of the shadow Accountable Care Partnership for Pennine Lancashire. The Committee considered the proposed outcomes of the plan and how these would be progressed. The Committee were informed of the financial challenges that would need to be faced together with the opportunities to improve services, invest in preventative services and use of digital technologies. The steps towards the accountable care partnership were set out and the public engagement that had taken place throughout the year.

The Committee drew attention the issues that would be faced by residents of the borough in particular with the creation of hubs and the transportation problems and costs that may present difficulties. The Committee will continue to monitor the development of the partnership to ensure that the best services were provided to meet the needs of residents.

The Committee will look to progress its work programme in the next few meetings and will look at the following issues-

- The scrutiny of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Social care and the NHS
- Contracts taken over from the NHS
- Mental Health
- Health Watch.

4. **Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

The Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee continued with its work programme looking at key issues relating to RIPA and the Shape of the New Council.

The Use of RIPA.

The Committee looked at the use of the Councils powers under RIPA. They were informed that there had been no requests for use of RIPA since the last report to the Committee in February 2017. The Committee noted that the Councils Procedural guide had been generally positive and was found to be “comprehensive and provided sound guidance to practitioners” further training was also being undertaken for officers on the use of the Council’s powers. The Committee noted the current situation.

The New Council.

The Committee noted that there were a number of key issues that had been determined by the Policy Council including

- The reduction in the number of members from 64 to 51, with 17 wards with 3 seats.
- The elections (following the all-out election in May 2018) would be by thirds and
- Leadership of the Council would be through a Leader with an Executive Board.

The Committee welcome and acknowledge the acceptance by the Leader and Policy Council, of the thoughts, scope and outline the Committee proposed for the Council structure post May 2018. This gives credence to the Committees work over several months to ensure a seamless transition in the Councils twentieth anniversary year. The recommendations of the Policy and Corporate Resources OSC relating to scrutiny had been incorporated with three Committees looking at Place, People and Resources. The Committee would keep the issue under review and ensure that the governance requirements were addressed.

Progress of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Committee looked at the work of the three other Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the key recommendations and issues arising from their work programmes. These recommendations and the Executives response to them will continue to be monitored to ensure that scrutiny adds value to the work of the executive and to the services delivered to the residents of the Borough.

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