

**REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Wednesday 23rd January 2013**

PRESENT – *Councillor Surve (Chair) Hardman, Solkar, Evans, Khonat, Akhtar, Whalley, Iftakhar, Hussain, McFall, Daley, K. Foster and Cottam.*

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Talbot	- Executive Member for Culture Leisure and Sport
Martin Eden	- Director for Culture Leisure and Sport
Steve Tingle	- Lead Chief Officer
John Addison	- Principal Scrutiny Officer

RESOLUTIONS

19 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Apologies were received from Councillors Jackie Slater, Hollings Taylor and Sidat.

20 Minutes of Meetings held on 21st November 2012

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of Meetings held on 21st November 2012 be noted.

21 Declarations of Interest in items on this Agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

22 Overview of Culture, Leisure, sport and Young People Portfolio

The Chair welcomed to the Committee the Executive Member for Culture Leisure and Sport to present a overview report on the portfolio's service areas, and to present key achievements over 2012/13 and highlight the potential challenges over the coming twelve months

Members were informed that the Culture, Leisure, Sport & Young People (CLS&YP) portfolio was a cross-cutting portfolio which managed and operated a wide range of buildings and provided unique and diverse services which local residents choose to access. It was reported that service areas within the department helped to deliver programmes aimed

at improving the health and quality of life for those who live, work and visit Blackburn with Darwen.

It was noted that the department played a central role in tourism and regeneration in the borough through its provision of leisure services, heritage services and King George's Hall as well as activities targeted at young people. The Borough's leisure centres, libraries and museum acted as outreach mechanisms to promote health, culture, learning, cohesion and social inclusion by being integrated in the heart of communities.

The Executive Member reminded Members that his department recognised the impact and important contribution its service areas have at a micro and macro level, hence following the comprehensive spending review and subsequent downsizing across the department, priorities for 2012/13 and were refocused to include:

- I. Increasing participation in physical activity and leisure opportunities for the benefit of Blackburn with Darwen residents
- II. To increase engagement and participation in wider cultural opportunities
- III. To increase access and awareness of positive activities for children and young people in the Borough
- IV. To promote leisure & cultural services and cultural industries as a major contributor to the economic and regeneration agenda
- V. To deliver service transformation and sustainable services

Members were informed that in addition to the initial departmental priorities outlined for 2012/13, the following Corporate Plan priorities had been outline for 2014/15:

- 1) Community Voice - Securing the active participation of local residents in shaping local services; working with volunteers to effectively deliver the borough's leisure and cultural offer
- 2) Strategic Review of Leisure and Culture Assets - Linking to the wider corporate asset review with particular reference to Blackburn and Darwen Town Centre Regeneration strategies.
- 3) Health & Wellbeing - developing an integrated health and wellbeing service in partnership with other Council departments, the third sector and local health organisations which encourages people to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- 4) Young People - Developing a borough wide, integrated offer for children and young people in partnership with other Council

departments, the Youth Zone and other 3rd sector youth organisations.

- 5) Culture and Creativity - Developing a vision for Blackburn with Darwen as part of a creative and cultural Pennine Lancashire. Promoting culture's contribution to social regeneration and community cohesion within the borough

Members held a discussion with the Executive Member for Culture Leisure and Sport, in particular about the Council's vision for King Georges Hall, budget for marketing events in the borough, community engagement and the Town Centre night time economy.

RESOLVED –

That the Executive Member for Culture Leisure and Sport and the Director for Culture Leisure and Sport be thanked for their attendance.

23 Task Group Recommendations

The Principal Scrutiny Officer presented to Members a list of recommendations for the Committees Highways Task group based on Members comments and observations over the past 4 months in their scrutiny review.

Members considered each recommendation in turn and requested that they be altered to slightly to better reflex the general feeling of the Committee. It was agreed that the recommendations could be signed off by the Chair and Vice-Chair after the alterations had been made and circulated to all Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Principal Scrutiny Officer submits draft recommendations to the Committees January meeting.

24 Committee Work Programme

The Chair reminded the Committee on its work programme for the remainder of the year based on what had been presented by the Executive Members.

Members agreed that the Committee should continue to create two sub groups to work outside of the Committee to scrutinise the portfolios for the remainder of the year. Members held a discussion on areas that the Committee could seek further information on Regeneration of Town Centres and Waste Procurement.

RESOLVED –

That the Principal Scrutiny Officer set up dates for both Tasks Groups of Regeneration of Town Centres and Waste Procurement to be held in February/March 2012/13.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....