

**REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Wednesday 29th June 2016**

PRESENT – Councillors *Surve* (Chair), *Shorrocks*, *Khonat*, *Entwistle*, *Mulla*, *Wright*, *Hardman*, *Neil Slater* and *Tapp*.

Co-optees - none.

Also Present –

Cllr Smith	Executive Member for Environment
Cllr Mahmood	Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Customer Services
Cllr Riley	Executive Member for Regeneration
Tom Flanagan	Executive Director for Place
Tony Watson	Head of Environment
John Addison	Principal Scrutiny Officer

RESOLUTIONS

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to first meeting in the municipal year of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2016

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest in items on this Agenda

There were No Declarations of Interest received.

4. Work of the Executive – Executive Member Priorities 2016/17

The Chair welcomed all the Executive Members to the meeting. Each of the Executive Members were invited in turn to present their priorities and key risks for 2016/17. The Executive Members had also been asked to inform the Committee if they had identified any risks on the Council's Risk Register.

Executive Member for Regeneration

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Regeneration and invited him to present his priorities, challenges and promises. Councillor Riley advised the Committee that within his priorities were:

- To drive economic growth in 3 areas - housing, industry and gateways, and town centres – and promote the brand
- To create more jobs with more residents in work
- To complete current major capital schemes and develop a scheme pipeline to sustain growth
- To gain maximum benefit from the new Capita partnership and secure effective, value for money services for the future
- To maximise income and plan for long term growth in council tax and business rate receipts

The Director for Growth and Prosperity continued by outlining key risks for his department as:

- Failure to make the new Capita partnership work for the Borough
- Failure to invest in growth ie to be ready to plan and invest on a business case basis to deliver long term growth outcomes
- Failure to invest in local people through upskilling and training

Executive Member for Environment

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Environment and invited him to present his priorities, challenges and promises. Councillor Smith advised the Committee that within his priorities were:

- Successfully deliver the Council's on and off street parking service.
- Improve quality, productivity and efficiency of services through LEAN and smarter delivery, better trained, motivated, engaged staff, working with procedures and in an environment which promotes good standards of health and safety.
- Modernise customer contact with digital gateways, access to forms and service requests.
- Promote behaviour change through the Your Call agenda, including targeting gateways in 2016/17.
- Address impact of environmental crime, hygiene and trading standards on the community.

The Executive Member continued by outlining key risks for his portfolio as:

- Managing downsizing of significant front facing services whilst maintaining a level of service quality, maximising income generation and managing expectations.
- Being able to secure long-term improvement to assist in landfill diversion and improvement of recycling rates.

- The Council not able to achieve effective licensing of private rented properties across the borough.

Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing & Customer Services

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing & Customer Services and invited him to present his priorities, challenges and promises. Councillor Mahmood advised the Committee that his priorities were:

- Transforming Lives
- Volunteer and Asset Based Working
- Housing Quality
- Community Safety
- Housing Needs and Homelessness
- Asylum Seeker Policies and Support Services

The Executive Member continued by outlining key risks for his portfolio as:

- The role of neighbourhood services in assisting the achievement of early intervention and integrated delivery of 'Transforming Lives' as a key element of public sector service reform. The budget challenges facing the council may inadvertently result in reducing prevention spend.
- Inability to develop and generate significant investment in volunteering and community capacity to help build resilient communities.
- Risks to not being able to achieve effective Licensing of private rented properties, including regulation of HMOs, thus impacting on not being able to manage demand.
- Increasing homelessness due to lack of investment in new housing provision.
- Rising crime in light of a reduction in Police, Council and Partner budgets to maintain frontline preventative services.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Executive Members for Environment, Neighbourhoods, Housing and Customer Services and Officers be thanked for their attendance.
- 2) That the key priorities and risks for 2016/17 for Regeneration, Environment, Neighbourhoods, Housing and Customer Services be noted.

5. Committees work programme

The Principal Scrutiny Officer reminded Members of some issues and discussions that had taken place with the Executive Members, highlighting the main issues of debate that had been raised;

- Town Centre Parking and blue badge.

- Capital Schemes –
- The Growth Agenda
- Volunteer and Asset Based Working.
- Recycling
- Effective licensing of private rented properties across the Borough.
- Welfare reform/universal credit – understanding the impact and implications.
- Failure to invest in growth i.e. to be ready to plan and invest on a business case basis to deliver long term growth outcomes

It was agreed that for the next meeting of the Committee, Members wished to receive an update presentation on the growth agenda and the progress towards achieving income targets.

Members also agreed that other work programme topics for the year would be on Volunteer and Asset Based Working, Parking and landlord licensing.

RESOLVED –

That for the next meeting of the Committee an update presentation on the Growth Agenda be provided.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....