

**REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Wednesday 25th January 2017**

PRESENT – *Councillors Surve (Chair), Entwistle, Mulla, Jan-Virmanji, Khonat, Hardman and Wright.*

Also Present –

Arshid Mahmood	Executive Member for Neighbourhood and prevention services
Sayyed Osman	Director for Housing and Localities
John Addison	Principal Scrutiny Officer

RESOLUTIONS

22. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the fifth meeting in the municipal year of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Apologies were received from Councillors, Shorrock, Tapp and Hollings.

23. Minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2016

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28st November 2016 be agreed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of the above.

24. Declarations of Interest in items on this Agenda

There were No Declarations of Interest received.

25. Volunteer and Asset Based Working

The Director for Housing and Localities provided Members with a presentation on volunteering and assets based working and reminded Members that this one a key area of work for his department.

It was reported that a key aims for the portfolio was Making Blackburn with Darwen cleaner and greener, Improving health and wellbeing, Community cohesion, togetherness and neighbourliness and supporting people through personal care.

Members were informed that in total volunteers covered 1118 formal roles across Blackburn and Darwen, including, Children's Centres, Community Centres, Environment, Highways, Leisure / re:fresh, Libraries and Museum.

It was reported that in delivering volunteering in Blackburn and Darwen, the council would ;

- Recognise existing good practice and success stories. Build on these and integrate into a collaborative and cohesive offer.
- Needs to be owned BwDBC providing the critical leadership and co-ordination.
- Working in conjunction with public sector, voluntary community and faith sector, private sector and communities.
- Critically important to have the interface with partners and organisations to understand the need and demands we are trying to mitigate, whilst also delivering a co-ordinated and brokered offer.
- Recognise that volunteering is not 'free'. There are system costs, expenses, training and other resources required.
- Motivation and morale of volunteers needs nurturing, robust and active communication plan, turnover and new recruitment, promotion as a stepping stone to employment.
- Linkages with 'Assets' - community, faith, public and private sector.

The Director reported that things were progressing well, highlighting;

- We have developed a detailed business case based on scenario of bending existing resources and re-prioritisation vs additional invest to save resource e.g. wouldn't want to redesign something that is working well but rather add to and collaborate with such as Wellbeing service.
- CCG, Public Health and other Partners engaged as Localities review to use the Transforming Lives model to co-ordinate multi-agency approach.
- Commissioned resources from IAG and other departmental programmes being aligned.
- Demonstrate how Better Care Fund could be attracted to support the prevention offer.
- Set out relationships and alignment with public sector partners, private sector and VCFS.
- Make links with Pennine Lancashire STP programme and Case for Change.
- Set overall programme performance parameters and outcomes.
- To have started implementation on a phased roll in calendar year 2016.
- Use practice to inform/influence wider PL development of prevention.

Members held a discussion with the Executive Member and the Director around his presentation and thanked him for all their hard work in making volunteering a success in Blackburn with Darwen.

RESOLVED –

That the Executive Members and Officers be thanked for their presentation.

26. Committees work programme

The Principal Democratic Services Officer presented the Committee’s work programme report which highlighted the key priorities and risks which had been outlined by the Executive Members at the beginning of the municipal year.

It was noted that at the next meeting in March 2017, the Committee would be provided with a presentation on future developments and potential developments in the borough and how the Council was aiming achieve its growth targets.

Members were also reminded that the Committee would, as part of its work programme for the remainder of the year be looking at the Growth Agenda, the evening economy and Volunteer and Asset Based Working and Capital Programmes.

RESOLVED –

That the Committee’s work programme for the remainder of the 2016/17 municipal year be noted.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....