

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2014**

**MAIN POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**  
**AND FOLLOW UP ACTION**

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE**

**(Contact: Councillor Peter Handley)**

(The report is for information)

**1. PURPOSE**

To consider the main points arising from the meeting of the Committee held on 18 September 2014 and to provide an update on the follow up action that has been taken.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That, the report be noted.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1. At the meeting of this Committee held on 18 September 2014 five reports were received and considered.

**Chairman's Update Report**

3.2. The Chairman's Update Report was received and noted.

**Thames Valley Police**

3.3. The Committee received the annual update presentation from representatives of Thames Valley Police.

3.4. Members asked a number of questions and after a detailed discussion it was resolved:

- (a) That Superintendent Kath Lowe and Chief Inspector Helen Roberts be thanked for their attendance and informative update; and
- (b) That it be requested that, in future, the performance statistics were given in greater detail, with attention to the break-down of outcomes where possible, and the inclusion of relevant convictions for each subject heading (where known).

3.5. Following the meeting additional information relating to the number of cautions issued in the district was circulated to members.

**Review of District Homelessness Strategy**

3.6. Consideration was given to a report reviewing and updating the District Homelessness Strategy action plan.

3.7. After discussion it was resolved:

- (a) That Cabinet be recommended to approve:-
  - (i) The updated action plan set out in Appendix A to the report; and
  - (ii) The updated eligibility criteria for the rent in advance and deposit bond schemes set out in Appendix B to the report;

- (b) That the contents of the report be noted, and officers be thanked for the production of such a good report; and
- (c) That a meeting be arranged with the housing providers within the district in order to discuss with the Committee issues of adequate housing, rent arrears and the effects of benefit changes upon tenants.

3.8. The Cabinet considered the recommendations at a meeting on 15 October 2014 where the recommendations of this committee were agreed.

3.9. The meeting with housing providers will be organised in due course.

#### **Committee Work Programme**

3.10. Consideration was given to the report of the Strategic Director providing an update on the Committee Work Programme for 2014/2015.

3.11. Members discussed specific work areas and made updates to the programme accordingly.

#### **Cabinet Work Programme**

3.12. The Cabinet Work Programme published on 19 August 2014 was received and noted.

#### **Performance Indicators**

3.13. The report of the shared Head of Business Information and Change providing information on the Council's performance for the first quarter of the year 2014/2015 was received and noted.

### **4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS**

None.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

### **6. RISKS**

None.

### **7. REASONS**

The Chairman's summary of the previous meeting is an opportunity for the Chairman to outline to members progress made on their ideas and suggestions from the previous Committee meetings. It will also provide members with a further chance to comment on these subjects and provide a transparent method of showing the effectiveness of members' contributions to this Committee and its key overview and scrutiny role in monitoring, evaluating, questioning, challenging and developing policy.

Councillor Peter Handley  
Chairman of Economic and Social Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 10 November 2014

Background Papers:

None