

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 26 MARCH 2015
MAIN POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING 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 20 November 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 20 November 2014 seven reports were received and considered.

Chairman's Update Report

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

Budget 2015/2016

3.3. The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director regarding draft budget proposals for 2015/2016.

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

- (a) That Cabinet be advised that the committee supports the budget proposals subject to (b) below; and
- (b) That Cabinet be asked to consider the possibility of providing funding to support the domestic violence service in light of reduced funding from Oxfordshire County Council.

3.5. The Cabinet considered the views of the committee, together with those of the other scrutiny committees, at the December meeting where it was resolved:

- (a) That the initial draft base budget for 2015/16 totalling £9,889,800 as summarised in Appendix A to the report be approved.
- (b) That the draft fees and charges for 2015/16 with detailed budget pages at Appendix B be approved.
- (c) That the latest Capital Programme for 2014/15 revised and future years at Appendix C be approved.

3.6. In respect of funding for the domestic violence service the committee is asked to note that it had been clarified that OCC cuts for this service would not be implemented until 2016 but the matter would be revisited in the 2016-2017 budget.

Affordable Housing Target

- 3.7. Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Planning and Strategic Housing regarding proposed targets for Affordable Housing provision in the district up to 2020.
- 3.8. After discussion it was resolved:
- (a) That, the content of the report be noted; and
 - (b) That Cabinet be recommended to adopt the proposed affordable housing target of at least 400 affordable homes in the period 2015 – 2018 and at least 800 affordable homes in the period 2015 – 2020
- 3.9. The Cabinet considered the recommendations at a meeting on 10 December 2014 where the recommendations of this committee were agreed.

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 11 November 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: 11 March 2015

Background Papers: None