

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 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 10 September 2015 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 10 September 2015 six reports together with a presentation were received and considered.

**Thames Valley Police (TVP) Area Police Commander – Annual Update**

3.2. The Committee received the annual update from Supt. Kath Lowe, Area Police Commander, in respect of policing priorities for the area and addressing specific issues raised by councillors.

3.3. Members asked a number of questions and thanked Supt Lowe for her attendance at the meeting and for answering the questions so openly. Mr Handley asked that the appreciation of the committee of the work of local policing teams be passed on.

3.4. The Committee resolved that the update be noted.

**Oxfordshire County Council Supported Transport (Subsidised Buses and Dial-A Ride) Consultation Committee Work Programme 2015/2016**

3.5. Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Leisure and Communities regarding a consultation document from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), together with the views of Local Members, in respect of proposed changes to subsidised bus services and to the Dial-a-Ride service in Oxfordshire.

3.6. Members discussed the consultation document and resolved:-

That Cabinet be recommended:

- (a) To support the overarching consultation comments contained in paragraphs 3.13 to 3.18 in the response to Oxfordshire County Council;
- (b) That specific comments be included in respect of the potential impact of reductions to the 18/19 and X15 services;
- (c) That the response should make reference to the inadequacy of the consultation data provided, the importance of maintaining access to the main market towns, the role of smaller rural service centres that support the surrounding villages and

hamlets, tourism in the district, the effect of future development and the potential impact on the voluntary sector; and

- (d) That representatives of OCC be invited to attend a future meeting to explain the decisions reached and how services are to be structured in the future.

3.7. The report and recommendations of this committee were considered at Cabinet on 16 September 2015 and it was resolved:

- (a) That the overarching consultation comments contained in paragraphs 3.13 to 3.18 in response to Oxfordshire County Council, together with the comments detailed above be approved;
- (b) That specific comments be included in respect of the potential impact of reductions to the 18/19, 213/214/215, 233 and X15 services;
- (c) That the response makes reference to the inadequacy of the consultation data provided (and in particular to the lack of patronage data), the importance of maintaining access to the main market towns, the role of smaller rural service centres that support the surrounding villages and hamlets, tourism in the district, the effect of future development and the potential impact on the voluntary sector.
- (d) That, for the reasons set out above, in accordance with paragraph 37 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution, and with the concurrence of the Chairman of the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the decisions be implemented immediately

#### **Committee Work Programme**

3.8. A report in respect of progress with the previously agreed work programme was received and considered.

3.9. Updates were given in respect of a number of work areas and it was resolved to note progress to date.

#### **Cabinet Work Programme**

3.10. The Cabinet Work Programme published on 18 August 2015 was received and noted.

#### **Oxfordshire Growth Board**

3.11. A report summarising the work going on through the Oxfordshire Growth Board looking in particular at how to address the issue of any unmet housing need arising from Oxford which cannot be accommodated within the city boundaries was received and noted.

#### **Performance Indicators – Quarter 1 2015/2016**

3.12. The report of the Shared Head of Business Information and Change providing information on the Council's performance at the end of the first quarter of year 2015/2016 was noted.

#### **Members' Questions**

3.13. Member questions were received in respect of developer contributions, children's centres and the Syrian refugee crisis.

### **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:

Background Papers: None