

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2016**  
**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 meetings of the Committee held on 15 September and 6 October 2016 and provide an update on the follow up action that has been taken.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be noted.

**3. BACKGROUND**

At the meeting of the Committee held on 15 September 2016, consideration was given to nine substantive items of business.

**3.1. Agenda Item No. 5: Main Points of the Last Meeting and Follow up Action**

The Committee noted the report of the Chairman, which gave details of the main points arising from its meeting held on 14 July 2016.

**3.2. Agenda Item No. 6: Committee Work Programme**

The Committee received an update on its Work Programme for 2016/2017.

**3.2.1 RAF Brize Norton**

The Committee resolved to express its support for the initiative taken to date and request the Cabinet to give further consideration to the provision of financial assistance to facilitate residential development at Brize Norton.

**3.2.2 Quality of Care/Review of Community Hospitals**

The Committee resolved that arrangements be made for a special meeting of the Committee to be held to consider and the impending review of community hospital provision in the County and the decision to close the Deer Park Surgery in Witney at the earliest possible opportunity. Arrangements were made for that meeting to be held on 6 October with representatives from the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, the Clinical Commissioning Board and Deer Park Surgery being invited to attend.

**3.2.3 Integration of Public Transport**

It was noted that the Cabinet had agreed to the Committee's request to provide financial assistance to meet the initial set-up costs of establishing a co-operative to commission local public transport services across the District. The Committee agreed that Ms E P R Leffman be requested to provide an update on the project to the next scheduled meeting.

### 3.2.4 Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan

It was agreed that a Working Party be established to consider the Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan. The Working Party held its inaugural meeting on 12 October and Members visited the Palace on 25 October. The Working Party met again on 31 October to enable Members to consider and comment upon the Council's draft response. The notes of those meetings appear as Agenda Item No. 13.

### 3.3. Agenda Item No. 7: Cabinet Work Programme.

The Committee noted the contents of the Cabinet Work Programme published on 23 August 2016.

### 3.4. Agenda Item No. 8: Local Police Commander's Annual Update

The Committee received a presentation from Superintendent Kath Lowe, Local Police Area Commander, Cherwell & West Oxfordshire, regarding policing priorities.

### 3.5. Agenda Item No. 9: Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

DCO Simon Furlong, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, attended the meeting and gave a brief overview of the operation of the Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service within the District.

### 3.6. Agenda Item No. 10: South Central Ambulance Service Trust

Representatives of the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust attended the meeting and Members received a brief presentation on the operation of the Service within the District. As Members expressed concern that they had not had sufficient time to assimilate the information provided in sufficient detail to enable meaningful discussion it was resolved that further consideration of the matter be deferred and representatives of the Trust invited to attend a subsequent meeting.

### 3.7. Agenda Item No. 11: Performance Indicators – Quarter 1 2016/2017

The Committee received the report of the Head of Leisure and Communities providing information on the Council's performance at the end of the first quarter of year 2016/2017.

### 3.8. Agenda Item No. 12: Leisure Management Contract Working Party

The Committee received the report of the meeting of the Leisure Management Contract Working Party held on 7 September 2016.

### 3.9. Agenda Item No. 13: Members' Questions

In response to a question from Mrs Carter, Officers undertook to investigate and report back further on the current position with regard to potential cuts in funding by OCC for domestic violence services.

At the meeting of the Committee held on 6 October 2016, consideration was given to two substantive items of business.

### 3.10 Agenda Item No. 6: Quality of Care/Review of Community Hospitals

As representatives of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust were unable to attend the meeting it was resolved that consideration of issues relating to the Horton Hospital or the impending review of community hospitals be deferred and representatives of the Trust invited to attend a subsequent meeting.

### 3.11 Deer Park Surgery, Witney

Representatives from VirginCare, the Deer Park Medical Practice and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group attended the meeting to outline their positions in relation to the future of the Deer Park Surgery and to respond to Members' questions.

The Committee resolved to establish a Working Party to seek further information and explore options by which primary care provision might be retained at Deer Park.

The Working Party held its inaugural meeting with representatives of the CCG on 26 October 2016. A further meeting with representatives of the Patient Forum was held on 9 November. The notes of those meetings appear as Agenda Item No. 14.

### 3.12 Call-in of Cabinet Decision - Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire

The Committee gave consideration to a call-in request relating to the Cabinet decision of 21 September 2016 in respect of the withdrawal of funding to Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire.

Members resolved to support the call-in request and refer the decision back to the Cabinet for reconsideration with a recommendation that the Cabinet agrees to continue funding the Housing and Debt project until March 2018, funding thereafter to be subject to a review of the operation of that service by the Committee in six months' time.

At its meeting held on 19 October the Cabinet agreed that the arrangements for the funding of the Citizens Advice Oxfordshire Housing and Debt project remain unchanged at present and considered as part of the on-going budget process.

## **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: 9 November 2016

Background Papers:

None