

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2017
MAIN POINTS FROM THE 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 24 November 2016 and 5 January 2017 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 24 November, 2016, consideration was given to 13 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 meetings held on 15 September and 16 October 2016.

3.1.1 Deer Park Medical Practice

Mrs Doughty, the Council's representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee gave a summary of the meeting that had taken place on 17 November. She advised that the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee had agreed to hold a substantial change toolkit meeting on 12 December.

3.2. Agenda Item No. 6 Review of Community Hospitals/Oxfordshire-wide Transformation Programme

Mr Dominic Hardisty, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Chief Executive of the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and Mr Pete McGrane, Clinical Director, Older People's Directorate, attended the meeting and summarised the consultation process that would be implemented to inform the Review of Community Hospitals and Oxfordshire-wide Transformation Programme. Members invited Mr Hardisty and Mr McGrane to return to a subsequent meeting once the consultation was underway.

3.3. Agenda Item No. 7: Establishment of a Local Transport Co-operative

Ms Leffman provided an update on progress to establish a co-operative to commission local public transport services across the District and Mr Enright spoke about developments in the Witney area.

3.4. Agenda Item No. 8 Budget 2017/2018

The Committee considered the report setting out the initial draft base budgets for 2017/18, draft fees and charges for 2017/18 and the latest Capital Programme for 2016/17

revised and future years. The current budget proposals were endorsed by the Committee and approved by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 December. The budget proposals are to be considered by Council on 18 January.

3.5. Agenda Item No. 9: Committee Work Programme

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

3.5.1 Review of Community Hospitals

It was noted that updates on the consultation on the transformation process would be provided as appropriate.

3.5.2 Welfare Reform Act – Meeting with Registered Social Landlords

Members requested that a report on the operation of the choice based lettings system and for housing support arrangements be submitted to the Committee.

3.5.3 Operation of the Ambulance Service

It was agreed that this item be deleted from the Work Programme but that the Trust be requested to provide regular updates on performance.

3.5.4 Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan

It was noted that the Working Party had made representations on the review of the Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan and agreed that the item be deleted from the Work Programme. Blenheim have now begun the consultation on their Management Plan. The consultation runs until 20 January 2017 and the final plan will be completed by the end of February. The Working Party met on 12 January and a report regarding the Council's response appears as Agenda Item No. 9. The observations of the Working Party will be reported at the meeting.

3.5.5 Deer Park Surgery Working Party

The Committee agreed that the Working Party could not proceed further until the outcome of the HOSC Toolkit Meeting was known. The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to meet on 2 February at which time the result of the toolkit meeting will be made known.

3.6. Agenda Item No. 10: Cabinet Work Programme.

The Committee noted the contents of the Cabinet Work Programme published on 15 November 2016.

3.7. Agenda Item No. 11: Performance Indicators – Quarter 2 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 second quarter of year 2016/2017.

3.8. Agenda Item No. 12: Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site

At the request of Mr Cooper, the Committee considered a report regarding the need for the creation of a buffer zone to the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site. Members noted the report and decided to take no further action on the matter.

3.9. Agenda Item No. 13: Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan Working Party

The Committee received the notes of the meetings of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site Management Plan Working Party held on 12 and 31 October 2016.

3.10 Agenda Item No. 14: Deer Park Surgery Working Party

The Committee received the notes of the meetings of the Deer Park Surgery Working Party held on 26 October and 9 November 2016.

3.11 Agenda Item No. 15: Oxford City's Unmet Housing Need

It was noted that Mr Cooper had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. The Strategic Director undertook to provide Members with more information on the process underlying the Growth Board's assessment of Oxford City's unmet housing need.

3.12 Agenda Item No. 16: Members' Questions

Members raised questions regarding the Council's expression of interest in the development of a new garden village and the car parking strategy.

At the meeting of the Committee held on 5 January 2017, consideration was given to one substantive item of business.

3.13. Agenda Item No. 6: Call-in of Cabinet Decision – Consultation on Cherwell Local Plan Partial Review

The Committee gave consideration to a call-in request relating to a Cabinet decision of 14 December 2016 (Minute no. 96) in respect of the response to the above consultation.

The Committee resolved not to support the call-in request but agreed that further consideration be given to the matter in due course, in the light of Cherwell District Council's response and its subsequent proposals for inclusion in its amended Local Plan.

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: 6 January 2017

Background Papers:

None