

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 25 MAY 2017
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 19 January and 9 March 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 19 January 2017, consideration was given to seven 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 24 November 2016 and 5 January 2017.

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 received an update on the current position regarding the redevelopment of Defence Infrastructure Organisation land in Carterton. Members noted that a further meeting was to be held with representatives of the DIO to discuss future development in the town.

3.2.2 Welfare Reform Act – Meeting with Registered Social Landlords

The Committee noted that, in order to enable the Committee to give priority to consideration of the proposals for changes to health service provision being brought forward in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West five year Sustainability and Transformation Plan, it was likely that this item of business would be deferred until later in the year.

3.2.3 Integration of Public Transport – Establishment of a Local Transport Co-operative

The Committee received an update on the establishment of a local transport co-operative and expressed the wish to see the development of services throughout the District.

3.2.4 Leisure Management Contract Working Party

Officers undertook to ensure that Members of the Working Party received sections of the Leisure Management Contract specification as requested.

3.2.5 Deer Park Medical Practice

The Committee received an update from Mrs Brenda Churchill, the Chairman of the Patient's Forum, on the efforts being made by that group to oppose the closure of the practice.

3.3. Agenda Item No. 7: Cabinet Work Programme

The Committee noted the contents of the Cabinet Work Programme published on 13 December 2016.

3.4. Agenda Item No. 8 Buckingham, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director advising Members of the publication by the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group of a summary document setting out how it proposed to approach the development of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

It was resolved that further consideration of the matter be deferred to a special meeting of the Committee to be held on 9 March during which full and detailed consideration could be given to the serious concerns already expressed.

3.5. Agenda Item No. 9: Blenheim World Heritage Site – Revised Management Plan

The Committee received and considered the report of the Strategic Director regarding the Council's response to the review of the Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan, together with the notes of the meeting of the Blenheim World Heritage Site Management Plan Working Party. It was resolved that the recommendations of the Working Party be approved as the Council's response to the consultation.

3.6. Agenda Item No. 10: Homelessness Update

The Committee received the report of the Group Manager for Revenues and Housing Support which provided Members with an update in relation to homelessness in the District and associated future challenges.

3.7. Agenda Item No. 11: Members' Questions

Members noted that the Finance and Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee was to consider a report on the Superfast Broadband Project at its next meeting.

At the Special Meeting of the Committee held on 9 March the Committee gave consideration to the proposed response to the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group in relation to Phase One of its consultation on the Oxfordshire Healthcare Transformation Programme.

At that meeting the Committee resolved:-

- (a) That the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee be advised that the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee has no confidence in the manner in which it has dealt with the County Council's referral of Phase One of the consultation on the Oxfordshire Healthcare Transformation Programme.

- (b) That the concerns and observations set out above be conveyed to the Cabinet for further consideration in the formulation of the Council's response to the consultation.

The Cabinet went on to consider the matter at its meeting on 15 March at which time it agreed that the draft response be approved, subject to incorporation of the views expressed by this Committee.

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: 2 May 2017

Background Papers:

None