OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2019

Present: Councillors John Kane, in the Chair; Gemma Dinsdale, Jeanette Forster, Jeffrey Hailes, Sam Meteer, Sam Pollen, Andy Pratt and Eileen Weir.

Officers: Julie Betteridge (Director of Growth and Inclusive Communities), James Young (Scrutiny Officer), Mike Graham (Mayor's Political Advisor), Chris Pickles (Work and Skills Officer), Diane Ward (Regeneration Projects Officer), Katie Read (Tourism Sector Development Officer) and Rose Blaney (Electoral Services Officer).

OSC 19/63  Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fee Wilson and Linda Jones-Bulman.

OSC 19/64  Declarations of Interests in Agenda Items:

Councillor Sam Meteer declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Copeland Borough Council (CBC) workforce as he has a relative who works for CBC.

Councillor Jeanette Forster declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 5 (Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee – Verbal Update) due to being employed by the National Health Service.

OSC 19/65  Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2019

Councillor Meteer asked for further information regarding the Nuclear Position Statements as he had not received the emails from the Scrutiny Officer. Councillor Pollen also provided some further clarification on the Single Table Trade Union Group’s (STTUG) view on the Nuclear Position Statements.

The Chair directed the Committee to OSC 19/50 on the minutes, and highlighted that the Scrutiny Officer and the Voluntary Living Wage Task and Finish Group had amended the wording of the report to take to the Executive. The updated report was shown to the Committee.
RESOLVED – That:

- The Scrutiny Officer will include the request for future Nuclear Position Statements to be included in their next Executive Report.
- The updated Overview and Scrutiny Report to go to the Executive was approved.
- The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

OSC 19/66  Executive Forward Plan

Committee considered the Executive Forward Plan. No issues were raised.

RESOLVED – That the Executive Forward Plan be noted.

OSC 19/67  Update from Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee

The Chair attended the latest Cumbria Health and Scrutiny Committee on 10th December 2019 and gave the committee the highlights from the meeting.

OSC 19/68  Update from the Single Table Trade Union Group (STTUG) representative

No update available due to STTUG representative being unable to attend the previous STTUG meeting. Update to come in the New Year.

OSC 19/69  Housing

No reports in relation to Housing matters were received.

OSC 19/70  Tourism Sector Development Presentation

Tourism Sector Development Officer gave a presentation on the upcoming project for the next three years. The following discussion highlighted the key points of the presentation including:

- Details of organisations included with the tourism sector development.
- A summary of the project.
- Examples of tourism opportunities that could be explored for Copeland.
- New target audiences.
- Key delivery milestones.
OSC raised questions on what provision would be made for local families that lack the resources to participate in some activities. It was explained that this would be addressed further into the development of the project.

The Committee thanked the Tourism Sector Development Officer for her presentation.

**OSC 19/71  Regeneration Presentation**

There were presentations given by the Work and Skills Officer, the Regeneration Projects Officer and the Director of Growth and Inclusive Communities. The presentation topics were; the Work and Skills Programme, the Future High Street Fund, Borderlands, Stronger Towns and the Hidden Coast Programme which is funded by the Coastal Community Fund and Sellafield LTD.

The following discussions highlighted key points from the presentations and provided clarification on multiple issues including; cycle paths, funding and grants for towns and the progress that officers have made on funding bids.

**RESOLVED – That:**

- The Director of Growth and Inclusive Communities will keep the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) up to date on all progress made on funding bids and regeneration projects.

**OSC 19/72  Task and Finish Group Updates**

The Scrutiny Officer highlighted the progress of the current Task and Finish Groups.

The Recycling Task and Finish Group has conducted its first meeting. Members were reminded to submit questions for the next meeting with the Community Services Manager and Waste Management Officer.

The Scrutiny Officer highlighted the poor attendance at the first meeting of the Older People Task and Finish Group but emphasised the meeting was still successful and the Group would still be going forward.

They also highlighted that there would be a new Social Prescribing Task and Finish Group created in 2020, but that they were still waiting for more information about what the Group would be tasked with, before creating the group.
RESOLVED – That the Scrutiny Officer keep the Committee up to date on the development of the new Task and Finish Group.

OSC 19/73   **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme**

The Scrutiny Officer highlighted that the change in the current agenda noted that the Empty Homes presentation will be moved to another meeting and the programme updated accordingly.

The Scrutiny Officer also highlighted the Overview and Scrutiny Training to be held on Monday 6 January 2020. It would be open for all councillors to attend, however, it was mandatory for OSC members to attend as per Article 6 of the Constitution.

RESOLVED – That the Scrutiny Officer will update the Work Programme with the necessary amendments.

OSC 19/74   **Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held on Tuesday 14 January 2020 at 2pm in the Bainbridge Room, Copeland Centre.

The Meeting closed at 4.05 pm

Chair