Agenda



Scrutiny Committee

Date: Monday 19 January 2015

Time: **6.00 pm**

Place: St Aldate's Room, Town Hall

For any further information please contact:

Sarah Claridge, Committee Services Officer

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As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

Scrutiny Committee

Membership

Chair Councillor Craig Simmons

Vice Chair Councillor Tom Hayes

Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan

Councillor Farida Anwar
Councillor Van Coulter
Councillor Roy Darke
Councillor James Fry
Councillor Sam Hollick
Councillor David Henwood

Councillor Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan

Councillor Linda Smith Councillor Louise Upton

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AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Pages

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 UPDATES SINCE THE LAST MEETING

For Scrutiny Members to update the Committee on any developments since the last meeting.

Chairs of the Finance and Housing Standing Panels may wish to update the Committee on their work.

The progress of review panels is briefly set out in section 2 of the work programme but Lead Members may also wish to provide a verbal update.

4 OXFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD

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Contact Officer: Paul Staines

Tel: 01993 861695

Email: paul.staines@westoxon.gov.uk

Background Information

The City Executive Board on 10 September 2014 approved the City Council becoming a member of the Oxfordshire Growth Board and appointed the Leader of the Council as the City Council's representative on the Board.

On 2 September 2014 the Scrutiny Committee pre-scrutinised this decision and agreed to monitor the work of the Board.

Why is it on the agenda?

The Scrutiny Committee has agreed to monitor the work of the Board.

Who has been invited to comment?

Councillor Bob Price, Leader of the Council, and Paul Staines, Oxfordshire Growth Board Programme Manager, have been invited to support the committee in its discussion.

5 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown

Tel: 01865 252230

Email: abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information

The Scrutiny Committee has asked to review to progress of the City Council's investment in educational attainment at primary level.

Why is it on the agenda?

For Members to receive a brief presentation and speak with the providers of the KRM programme in Oxford.

Who has been invited to comment?

Jonathon Solity and Helen Wall from KRM have been invited to present and discuss their findings with the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Pat Kennedy has also been invited to contribute to this discussion.

6 NEW COUNCIL CONTROLS OVER ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Contact Officer: Richard Adams

Tel 01865 252283

Email: radams@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information

New tools and powers have been made available to the police and local authorities under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Why is it on the agenda?

The Scrutiny Committee has agreed to review the Council's approach to anti-social behaviour.

Who has been invited to comment?

Councillor Dee Sinclair and Richard Adams, Service Manager for Environmental Protection, have been invited to present this item.

7 WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD PLAN

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer

Tel 01865 252230

Email: abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information

Indicative agenda schedules are set out in section 5 of the Scrutiny Work Programme.

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The latest Forward Plan is included which outlines decisions to be taken by the City Executive Board or Council.

Why is it on the agenda?

The work programme will be reviewed at every meeting so that it can be adjusted to reflect the wishes of the Committee

Members are asked to select which Forward Plan items they wish to pre-scrutinise based on the following criteria:

- Is the issue controversial / of significant public interest?
- Is it an area of high expenditure?
- Is it an essential service / corporate priority?
- Can Scrutiny influence and add value?

A maximum of three items for pre-scrutiny will normally apply.

Who has been invited to comment?

Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer can support the Committee in its discussion.

8 REPORT BACK ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel 01865 252230 abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information

The Committee makes a number of recommendations to officers and decision makers. This item allows Committee to see the results of recommendations since the last meeting and the cumulative results of all scrutiny recommendations.

Why is it on the agenda?

Since the last Scrutiny Committee meeting, recommendations on the following items have been added:

- Clean Streets
- Discretionary Rates Relief Policy
- Oxford Standard
- Asset Management Strategy (Housing Panel)
- Older Persons Housing Review (Housing Panel)

Who has been invited to comment?

Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer.

9 LOCAL ECONOMY SCRUTINY PANEL - DRAFT SCOPE

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel 01865 252230 abrown2@oxford.gov.uk 155 - 164

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Background Information

The Committee established a 'Local Economy' Scrutiny Panel to review how the City Council supports local businesses and identify what more could be done. The Panel has met to gather some initial evidence and consider its areas of focus.

Why is it on the agenda?

For the Scrutiny Committee to note and comment on the proposed scope of the Panel.

Who has been invited to comment?

Councillor Fry, Chair of the Panel can introduce the proposed scope.

10 MINUTES

Minutes from 8 and 23 December Scrutiny Committee meetings

<u>Recommendation:</u> That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2014 be APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

Recommendation: That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 December 2014 be APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings are scheduled as followed:

3 February 2015 2 March 2015 23 March 2015 5 May 2015 167 - 172

DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licences for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.