

COUNCIL

16 OCTOBER 2014

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services

Summary

This report provides a summary of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees since the last report to Council on 24 July 2014 and provides details of the following meetings:

- Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 15 July 2014
- Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 6 August 2014
- Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 19 August 2014
- Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 21 August 2014
- Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 26 August 2014
- Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 18 September 2014
- Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 30 September 2014
- Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 October 2014

1. Policy and Budget Framework

- 1.1 The Council's constitution provides for the activities of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees to be reported to Council meetings. The following is a summary of business conducted. For further detail please refer to the minutes of each Committee which are published on the Council's website using the weblinks under each section. The agendas and reports for each meeting are also available online via the same weblinks.
- 1.2 Hard copies can also be supplied on request and are also available at Chatham, Gillingham and Strood Libraries.

2. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2.1 15 July 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=2966>

2.1.1 **Report title** **Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) requested an update report to a future meeting of the Committee.

2.1.2 **Report title** **Complaints and Compliments Annual Report: April 2013 to March 2014**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report and recommended that it be forwarded to Corporate Parenting Board for consideration; and
- (b) requested that future reports provide a breakdown of complainants into categories including parents/carers and professionals.

2.1.3 **Report title** **Medway Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2013-14**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed to provide individual feedback on the MSCB website.
<http://www.mscb.org.uk/>

2.1.4 **Report title** **The Local Authority's approach to Personal Budgets and Direct Payments**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

2.1.5 Report title 2013-14 Year End Performance Monitoring

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

This report was considered by the Cabinet on 15 July 2014. The Cabinet noted the 2013/2014 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/2015 and agreed that Cabinet Members would continue to work with officers to improve performance.

2.1.6 Report title Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) agreed the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 of the report, with the addition of an item to update the Committee on Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS);
- (b) agreed that the next topic of the scrutiny task group should focus on supporting Medway's care leavers to have a stable and productive adult life being positive active citizens, and that nominations for membership of the task group should be forwarded to the Democratic Services Officer as soon as possible on the basis of 5 members (3 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Liberal Democrat).
- (c) noted that a further election process for nominations for Parent/Governor Representatives on the Children and Young Person Overview and Scrutiny Committee will commence in September 2014; and
- (d) noted the action that is being taken to address the recommendations of the Safeguarding Peer Review as set out at paragraph 8.1 of the report.

3. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3.1 6 August 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3108>

3.1.1 **Report title** **Medway NHS Foundation Trust – Care Quality Commission Inspection**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- a) That Monitor should be advised in letter from the Committee of Mr Langley's decision not to attend the meeting which is a failure to comply with his obligation to Overview and Scrutiny, the disappointment of Members and the wish of the Committee that any future Chair of MFT should be advised of the expectation they will attend Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings on a regular basis;
- b) That the Acting Chief Executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust be invited to attend the Committee meeting on 30 September 2014 to bring forward full details of the Trust's action plan in response to the findings set out in the CQC Inspection report;
- c) To note that a representative from Monitor and the CQC had been requested to attend the Committee meeting on 30 September 2014 and;
- d) To formally request Healthwatch Medway to provide the Committee with feedback from users of the hospital for independent feedback on their experiences as the improvement actions are implemented.

4. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 19 August 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=2995>

4.1.1 Report title Attendance of Portfolio Holder for Adult Services

The Portfolio Holder responded to Members' questions on the following topics:

- Medway Mile
- Future of adult mental health social work team
- Robert Bean Lodge, Nelson Court and the Balfour Centre
- Sexual health service
- Day services
- Dementia
- Board of governors
- Extra care housing
- Monitoring of joint commissioning
- Changes to the smoke free policy
- Breastfeeding

Outcome:

The report was noted.

4.1.2 Report title South East Coast Ambulance Trust – Emergency Operation Centres: engagement

Outcome:

The report was noted and the Director of Commercial Services requested to feed back the Committee's views, in relation to their concerns about the possibility of SECamb staff working at home, into the process and report back on progress.

4.1.3 Report title Consultation on changes to dermatology services

Outcome:

The Committee concluded that the proposals did not constitute a substantial variation or development of service.

4.1.4 Report title Acute mental health inpatient bed update

Outcome:

The report was noted and the Chief Executive of Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust was requested to provide further information about staffing vacancies and the reasons for placements out of area to the next meeting.

4.1.5 Report title Communities of Excellence and People with Lived Experience – Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Outcome:

In view of the lateness of the hour Members decided that a meeting should take place with the leading Members of the Committee and officers to develop a response to the above consultation documents.

4.1.6 Report title Mental Health Services in Medway Task Group – review of recommendations

Outcome:

It was agreed to recommend Cabinet to make provision in the budget setting process for the Link worker embedded in Housing Services to be a permanent appointment with a suggestion that a review of outcomes should be undertaken after the period of one year.

4.1.7 Report title Update on patient transport

Outcome:

- (a) The report was noted;
- (b) Feedback to the Committee on the outcome of any discussions held with Norse (about any assistance which they may be able to provide for patient transport) was requested along with details of the full draft specification when ready.

4.1.8. Report title Quarter 4 Performance Report

Outcome: The report was noted.

4.1.9. Report title Work programme

Outcome:

- (a) The Committee noted that the following items would be brought to 30 September 2014 meeting:
- Gateway 4 report outsourcing of Linked Service Centres: Robert Bean Lodge and Nelson Court
 - Health trainer service
- (b) The Committee noted that the following items would be brought to 11 December 2014 meeting:
- Report on supported living
 - Gateway 3 contract award residential and nursing care for working age adults

5. Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5.1 21 August 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=3057>

5.1.1 Report title Petitions

The Committee considered a report covering the following petitions:-

- Flooding in Rochester High Street where the lead petitioner was satisfied that works undertaken appeared to have resolved the problem
- Improved bus services for Lower Rainham where the lead petitioner attended the Committee.

Outcome:

It was agreed that:

- a) The Committee note the petition responses and appropriate officer action set out in paragraph 3 of the report and action taken to resolve the issues relating to the petition referred to at paragraph 4.2 of the report.
- b) The Committee's thanks be extended to Mrs Baker and the other petitioners for attending the meeting and the Committee acknowledge the work that the petitioners have put into their petition and the work undertaken by officers to date; and
- c) Officers be requested to continue to negotiate with the bus providers on the various requests made by the petitioners.

5.1.2 **Report title** **Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services**

The Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services responded to Members questions on the following topics:

- Highways Responsive maintenance
- Weekly waste collections
- Resurfacing of Vicarage Road, Gillingham
- Pay and display parking in York Avenue, Gillingham
- Possible introduction of a kerbside recycling scheme for the collection of unwanted clothing
- Possible bus link between Canal Road and Commissioners Road in Strood
- Possible reduction in the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph in Watling Street, Strood and possible tree surgery to reduce the tree canopies to make the area lighter taking into account that this stretch of road is used by school children walking to and from school each day
- Concerns that works were due to be undertaken at Darnley Arches for a 6 week period particularly taking into account works also due to take place on the M2 by the Highway Agency
- De-cluttering Strood works
- Timing of the traffic lights on the roundabout located off St Mary's Island to Medway Tunnel and whether these link into the traffic management system, especially during the evening when the traffic flow is reduced
- Possible provision of traffic lights at Sans Pareil roundabout
- Trial Snow Warden Scheme in Luton and Wayfield, River and Strood Rural Wards
- The level of funding available for works at Medway Tunnel
- The level of funding available for Waste Collection and the period by which this was required to be spent
- Resurfacing of roads in Medway and concern expressed regarding the difficulties in having a possible Resident's Parking Permit Scheme considered for part of Maidstone Road, Rochester
- Removal of weeds growing out of pavements and the regularity of weed spraying
- Operational Services – street washing

Outcome:

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions.

5.1.3 Report title 2013/14 Year End Performance Monitoring

Outcome:

It was agreed that:

- a) The Committee's thanks be extended to officers for the detailed report;
- b) The performance information for Quarter 4 be noted
- c) It be noted that where officers have been unable to provide a response to questions at this meeting, such information will be circulated in writing to Committee Members.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

This report was considered by the Cabinet on 15 July 2014. The Cabinet noted the 2013/2014 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/2015 and agreed that Cabinet Members would continue to work with officers to improve performance.

5.1.4 Report title Member's Item – Wi-fi access across Medway

Outcome:

The Committee thanked the Head of ICT for the report and her answers to questions.

5.1.5 Report title Food Safety Presentation

Outcome:

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the detailed presentation and report.

5.1.6 Report title Medway Statement of Community Involvement

Outcome:

The Committee expressed its appreciation to officers for the comprehensive report on the draft revision of the Statement of Community Involvement and requested that Councillors, Town Centre Forums and Town Centre Managers be included within the stakeholders to be consulted upon planning applications.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 30 September 2014. The Cabinet approved the adoption of the revised Medway Statement of Community Involvement as set out at Appendix 1 to the (Cabinet) report as an updated version of the document.

5.1.7 Report title Work Programme

Outcome:

The work programme be noted with the following revisions:

- The report on the Review of Average Journey Times across Medway now be included in the section of the Work Programme headed 'dates to be determined'.
- The report on the Local Transport Plan – Timing of Bus routes and punctuality be scheduled for 18 December 2014.
- A report on the Local Plan Annual Monitoring be scheduled for 18 December 2014.

6. Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6.1 26 August 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=2948>

6.1.1 Report title New Rent Setting Policy April 2015

Outcome:

- (a) The Committee recommended Cabinet to agree that
- (i) rents for existing stock will be based on the social housing rent formula of CPI + 1%;
 - (ii) newly built or acquired Council Housing rents will be based on the Social Housing Rents formula of CPI + 1%;
 - (iii) properties continue to be moved to formula rent when void;
 - (iv) the retained 1-4-1 Right to Buy receipts and any future retained receipts within the timescale for the new homebuilding project be used to part fund the HRA new build programme.
- (b) The Committee agreed that consideration of following be deferred to the meeting of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 October 2014:
- (i) the new criteria for rent setting for those households where there is a taxable income of £60,000 or more;
 - (ii) the proposal that from April 2015 rooms will only be counted as bedrooms if they are not on the ground floor of a property (unless the property is a single floor property such as a bungalow).

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet is scheduled to consider this report on 28 October 2014.

6.1.2 Report title Council Plan – 2013/14 Year End Performance Monitoring

Outcome:

- (a) The Committee noted the 2013/14 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013 - 2015.
- (b) The Committee requested a Briefing Note detailing:
- the evidence gathering undertaken, including the surveys undertaken of street homelessness;
 - information as to the migration of homeless people into Medway;
 - the support provided for street homeless, including contact details for lead officers;
 - partnership working, exploring in particular the data held by other organisations.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

This report was considered by the Cabinet on 15 July 2014. The Cabinet noted the 2013/2014 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/2015 and agreed that Cabinet Members would continue to work with officers to improve performance.

6.1.3 Report title Council Tax – Empty Homes Premium

Outcome:

- (a) The Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet that the Council set a Council Tax rate for long-term empty properties at the maximum permitted 150% of the normal liability, so to encourage owners to bring their property back into use.
- (b) The Committee requested a Briefing Note explaining the different Council Tax enforcement powers available to the Council where a property has been vacant for two years and the owner is known or not known.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 30 September 2014. The Cabinet recommended to Council to set a Council Tax rate for long-term empty properties (dwellings that have been left empty and unfurnished for two years or more) at the maximum permitted 150% of the normal liability, so to encourage owners to bring their property back into use.

There is a report seeking approval to this matter elsewhere on this agenda.

6.1.4 Report title Welfare Reform Task Group

Outcome:

The Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the Welfare Reform review document be referred to Cabinet on 2 September 2014 for consideration, together with the following recommendations:

- (a) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group continues to lead the Medway response to Welfare Reform and to work to develop communication between the Council and other agencies, with the objective of providing the customer with the single journey through a coordinated response. This should include:
 - (i) a Stakeholder event explaining the Welfare Reforms and the schemes in operation in Medway. This event should enable organisations to showcase their response to the reforms;
 - (ii) the development of a booklet (in print and online) for all affected residents, signposting the various organisations providing support;
 - (iii) a briefing for all Members on the Welfare Reforms.

- (b) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group undertakes further work to improve communication channels for potentially vulnerable claimants of discretionary payments, who may find themselves excluded. This should incorporate:
- (i) any positive learning from existing cross agency partnerships, such as Street Weeks and Troubled Families;
 - (ii) a review of Council systems, with a view to highlighting vulnerable claimants, especially where there may be safeguarding issues, and the potential need for 'personal intervention' in the debt recovery process;
 - (iii) undertaking a Diversity Impact Assessment to understand the cumulative impact of the Welfare Reforms including the impact on groups with protected characteristics and to identify the necessary actions to take forward.
- (c) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group review the Council's corporate debt policy, considering the feasibility of encouraging the "Warm Transfer" of clients to organisations such as StepChange, the Citizens Advice Bureau and Christians Against Poverty and stressing the availability of advice agencies at the later stages of the debt recovery process.
- (d) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group continue until after the introduction of Universal Credit and that the Corporate Management Team reviews its membership, with a view to ensuring appropriate representation at the relevant time and enhancing its collaborative work with partners.
- (e) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group ensures that it continues to track and respond to the emerging requirements of Universal Credit and Welfare Reforms, reporting on progress to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee every 6 months.
- (f) That the Council write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, copying in the Chairman of the Local Government Association, highlighting the:
- (i) recognised delays and impact of the assessment phases of Employment and Support Allowance and Personal Independence Payment processes;
 - (ii) concerns expressed during the evidence sessions as to direct payments;
 - (iii) benefits of a localised Local Welfare Assistance Fund and stressing the need for Central Government to make alternative funding provision for this to continue.
- (g) That the Welfare Reform Officers Working Group reflects on digital access, use and support across Medway. This should give particular focus on:
- (i) assisting in the development of a Corporate Customer Access Strategy and the development of an assisted digital offer;
 - (ii) linking in with community networks and considering the potential role of Digital Ambassadors (led by partners and the wider community);

- (iii) learning from research and pilot projects that are being undertaken both locally and nationally to establish barriers and enablers to digital access and use;
- (iv) the evolution of community hubs and considering the potential for privacy for claimants at Council access points.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 2 September 2014. The Cabinet's decisions are included in the Cabinet Record of Decisions – please refer to the Leader's Report on this Agenda for further details (Agenda item 8).

6.1.5 Report title Work Programme

Outcome:

- a) The Committee noted the addition to the Committee's Work Programme of the Council Plan Review Process, Welfare Reform Review – Six Month Update (as well as the rolling submission of a Welfare Reform Review every six months) and New Rent Setting Policy April 2015;
- b) The Committee agreed the changes to the work programme as set out in paragraph 3.2.1 of the report;
- c) The Committee noted the work programmes of all overview and scrutiny committees (set out in Appendix 2 of the report), including the update to the Regeneration, Community and Culture work programme to include a report on the Local Plan Framework in December 2014;
- d) The Committee requested that the Assistant Director Legal and Corporate Services consider and advise the Committee via a Briefing Note of the framework for ensuring the smooth transition of services at Riverside One - this should include consideration of the provision for mental health service users and the wider engagement of Councillors;
- e) The Committee agreed that future reports on the Committee's work programme should include the actions that are outstanding from previous meetings.

7. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7.1 18 September 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=2967>

7.1.1 Report title Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member)

The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member) responded to Members' questions and comments on the following topics:

- Increasing capacity of school places
- Location of detached youth workers on Peninsula
- Organisational Change Department
- New protocol for 'missing persons'
- Apprenticeships for young people with learning difficulties
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- Child sexual exploitation
- Key Stage 2 performance
- Home to School Transport

Outcome:

The Committee recommended that the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member), in consultation with officers, consider a review of the Home to School Transport Policy.

7.1.2 Report title Short Breaks Review and Policy

Outcome:

The Committee

- (a) recommended the Cabinet to approve the Short Break Review and Policy for Disabled Children and Young People in Medway 2014-19 and to request that it include more detail with regards to phased transition of the new policy to mitigate any families from abrupt changes in services they receive;
- (b) requested that a report on Early Help Services, including the Common Assessment Framework, be added to the work programme.
- (c) requested that a report on the local offer, demonstrating a tiered approach to support services, be added to the work programme.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 30 September 2014. The Cabinet approved the Short Break Policy for Disabled Children and Young People in Medway 2014-2019.

The Cabinet also agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Children and Adults Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member), to implement the Policy, as set out in paragraph 8.1 of the (Cabinet) report.

7.1.3 Report title Private Fostering Arrangements

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

7.1.4 Report title New Ofsted Single Framework

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and requested that the Medway Children's Action Network be invited to a future meeting of the Committee in order to understand roles and align work with overview and scrutiny.

7.1.5 Report title 2014 Review of the School Organisation Plan 2011-16

Outcome:

The Committee recommended the 2014 review and update of the School Organisation Plan 2011-16 to the Cabinet for approval.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 30 September 2014. The Cabinet noted the positive progress made against the School Organisation Plan 2011/2016 action plan.

The Cabinet approved an appraisal of the options outlined in the report to provide sufficient additional primary accommodation in the areas of Strood and Gillingham, including more detailed feasibility studies as required and agreed that the preferred options be reported back to Cabinet in due course.

The Cabinet also approved an appraisal of the options for expansion within the secondary sector, including more detailed feasibility studies as required, and agreed that the outcome be reported back to Cabinet in due course.

7.1.6 Report title Council Plan Performance Monitoring 2014-15

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 2 September 2014. The Cabinet noted quarter one 2014/2015 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/2015 and agreed, where required, to continue to work with officers to identify any areas for remedial action to build on current achievements.

7.1.7 Report title Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) agreed the work programme as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to the following additions:
 - Early Help Service, including Common Assessment Frameworks
 - Local Offer
 - Medway Children's Action Network
- (b) noted that expressions of interest for the two Parent Governor Representative vacancies on the Committee were invited at the start of the new school term in September 2014.

8. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8.1 30 September 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ielistdocuments.aspx?CId=131&MIId=2996>

8.1.1 Report title Medway NHS Foundation Trust

In addition to representatives from NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, the Chair and Acting Chief Executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust attended the meeting along with the Regional Director from Monitor.

Outcome:

The report was noted.

8.1.2 Report title Proposed Development of the Health Service or variation in provision of Health Service – Emergency and Urgent Care Review and Redesign

Outcome:

- (a) It was agreed that the plans for urgent and emergency care constitute a substantial variation of services for Medway;
- (b) A request was made for the Clinical Commissioning Group to consult with officers in Democratic Services in relation to the timeline for the consultation.

8.1.3 Report title Acute mental health inpatient bed update

Outcome:

- (a) The report was noted;
- (b) It was agreed that the Director of Operations, KMPT, would send to Members details of the categories of the 39 complaints received by the Trust over the period of one month. It was also agreed that he would respond to the Healthwatch Medway representative about the virtual ward upgrade and review of transport referred to in the appendix to the report and invite a Healthwatch Medway representative to be part of the patient experience group involved in the Emerald ward project.

8.1.4 Report title Dementia services to meet future needs

Outcome:

- (a) The Committee noted and supported the update on the changes to dementia support services and the recommendation in the draft Strategy made to improve the quality of life for people living with dementia in Medway;
- (b) A further report showing detailed costings and recommendations should be submitted to this Committee as part of wider consultation with the Council and prior to submission to the Cabinet.

8.1.5 Report title Gateway 4 report: outsourcing of Linked Service Centres – Nelson Court and Robert Bean Lodge

Outcome:

That an annual report, setting out an overview of the quality of care, adult safeguarding issues, value for money and the direction of travel of care homes in Medway, be added to the work programme for this Committee.

8.1.6 Report title Quarter 1 performance review

Outcome:

The report was noted.

8.1.7 Report title Health and Lifestyle Trainers Service

Outcome:

(a) The Committee recommended to Cabinet:

- (i) That an impact assessment is carried out and an assessment of the extent to which ceasing the Health and Lifestyle Trainer service will have an impact on the future targets of the Council and the future health of Medway residents;
- (ii) That no action be taken to cease the service until such time as the Council is in a better position to assess the impact.

(b) It was agreed that the Director of Public Health should investigate the contractual position with regard to notice required to cease the Health and Lifestyle Trainers service contract and, in the interim, provide a briefing note to the Committee on timings for the decision on the service.

8.1.8 Report title Work programme

Outcome:

The responses sent to KMPT in relation to the consultation documents on Communities of Excellence and People with Lived Experience, circulated outside of the meeting, were noted.

9. Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

9.1 2 October 2014

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=3058&Ver=4>

9.1.1 **Report title Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth responded to Members questions on the following topics:

- Regeneration of Chatham Town Centre
- Medway City Estate and its transport infrastructure
- Local Plan
- Affordable Housing
- Lack of consultation with Ward Councillors on transport projects within their Wards
- Chatham Town Centre Forum – Terms of Reference

Outcome:

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth for attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

9.1.2 **Report title 2014/15 Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring**

Outcome:

- a) The performance against the key measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/15 in Quarter 1 be noted; and
- b) A briefing note be circulated setting out information as to how measurements were undertaken in terms of time periods where a job has been safeguarded

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this report on 2 September 2014. The Cabinet noted quarter one 2014/2015 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/2015 and agreed, where required, to continue to work with officers to identify any areas for remedial action to build on current achievements.

9.1.3 **Report title** **Draft Cultural Strategy 2014 – 2019**

Outcome:

The Committee thanked the Deputy Director, Customer Contact, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance for his presentation and noted that he will be pursuing the innovative, low cost suggestions raised by Members during discussion on this item.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet is scheduled to consider this report on 28 October 2014.

9.1.4 **Report title** **Member’s Item – Protocol for communication/engagement with elected Members on major transport issues**

Outcome:

a) The Committee noted the contents of the report and the response from officers;

b) It was noted that the planning application notices system involving Members works successfully and that a similar system on transport projects be communicated with Members;

c) There be increased strategic planning on how transport projects both in and outside of the Council’s control impact on each other; and

d) A briefing note be supplied on the timescale for the bus lane in Canal Road in Strood to be opened up for use by taxis.

9.1.5 **Report title** **Petitions**

The Committee considered a report covering the following petitions:-

- Adoption by the Council of all Medway Gate Roads – The lead petitioner had been satisfied with the Directors response
- A request to review the speed restrictions in Watling Street, Strood – The lead petitioner had requested that this petition be referred to the Committee for consideration but had agreed that such referral be deferred until such time that the results of the proposed traffic survey are available.

Outcome:

The Committee noted the Officer’s response to the petition and that the lead petitioner for the review of speed restrictions in Watling Street, Strood has agreed that his petition not be referred to the Committee until after the traffic survey has been undertaken and the results are available.

9.1.6 **Report title** **Work Programme**

Outcome:

The work programme be noted with the revisions outlined in the report.

Background papers

None

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