

Medway Council
**Meeting of South Thames Gateway Building Control Joint
Committee**

Thursday, 2 October 2014

10.15am to 11.08am

Record of the meeting

Subject to approval as an accurate record at the next meeting of this committee

Present: Councillors: Burden, Chitty (Chairman) and Lewin

In Attendance: Janine Boughton, Head of Administration and Business Development
Vikki Finneran, Principal Accountant Financial Services, Gravesham Borough Council
James Freeman, Head of Planning, Swale Borough Council
Stephen Gaimster, Assistant Director, Housing and Regeneration
Sarah Kilkie, Assistant Director (Communities), Gravesham Borough Council
Andrew Lawson, Principal Accountant
Nicola Smith, Democratic Services Officer
Tony Van Veghel, Director, South Thames Gateway Building Control Partnership

10 Apologies for absence

There were none.

11 Record of meeting

The record of the meeting held on 12 June 2014 was agreed and signed by the Chairman as correct.

12 Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests

Disclosable pecuniary interests

There were none.

Other interests

There were none.

13 Urgent matters by reason of special circumstances

There were none.

14 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman announced that the Partnership had been in existence for seven years and thanked the member organisations, the Director and staff for their contributions.

15 South Thames Gateway Building Control Business Plan 2015 - 2018

Discussion:

The Director of the South Thames Gateway Building Control Partnership introduced the report which set out the draft Business Plan (dated 8 September 2014 Version 1) and Delivery Plan for 2015-2018 (dated 8 September 2014 Version 1). He advised the Joint Committee that following discussions between partner organisations and with staff, additional wording had been suggested and was included as a supplementary report, tabled at the meeting.

The Director set out the process for approval of the Partnership's Business Plan and timing required to ensure that each Partner Authority is able to incorporate associated budget requirements into financial planning processes for the subsequent year.

The Joint Committee acknowledged that further work would be undertaken in relation to refining the detail of various elements within the draft plans in order to incorporate comments and suggestions from partner organisations, as appropriate.

Decisions:

The South Thames Gateway Building Control Joint Committee:

- (a) approved the draft Business Plan (dated 8 September 2014 Version 1) and Delivery Plan for 2015-2018 (dated 8 September 2014 Version 1) as set out at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the report, subject to the inclusion of the additional words set out in Supplementary Report No 1;
- (b) agreed to send the revised draft Business Plan and Delivery Plan to each Partner Authority for comments.

Reasons for decisions:

The Joint Committee has a duty under the Memorandum of Agreement to formally consult with partner authorities on the draft Business Plan.

16 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Decision:

The Joint Committee agreed that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the exempt material relating to agenda item 7 (Development of the South Thames Gateway Building Control Partnership) and agenda item 8 (Monitoring Report: April to August 2014) because consideration of these matters in public would disclose information falling within Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as specified in agenda item 7 and agenda item 8, and the Joint Committee considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

17 Development of the South Thames Gateway Building Control Partnership

Discussion:

The Joint Committee discussed the report which set out details of an appraisal undertaken to understand and identify the implications of expanding the South Thames Gateway Building Control Partnership, if Canterbury City Council were to join the Partnership, and considered the potential benefits to both organisations and their customers.

Decision:

The South Thames Gateway Building Control Joint Committee noted the report and agreed that, following further discussions with Canterbury City Council and the work of the working groups, the Business Case be submitted to the next meeting of the South Thames Gateway Building Control Joint Committee for consideration and referral to the Partner Authorities.

Reasons for Decisions:

The suggested reasons for the decision as set out at paragraphs 9.1 and 9.2 of the exempt report were noted.

18 Monitoring Report: April 2014 to August 2014

Discussion:

The Joint Committee discussed the report which set out the current forecast for the 2014/2015 financial year and gave details against the progress of the objectives of the Business Plan 2012/2017.

Decision:

Members noted the contents of the report.

Suggested Reason for Decision

The Constitution requires Joint Committee to maintain a monitoring role on the progress of the Partnership.

Chairman

Date:

Nicola Smith, Democratic Services Officer

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