

COUNCIL

28 APRIL 2016

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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Summary

This report provides a summary of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees since the last report to Council on 21 January 2016.

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 high level summary of business conducted. For further detail please refer to the minutes of each Committee which are published on the Council's website. Weblinks are provided under each section throughout this report.

2. Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2.1 2 February 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=3263>

2.1.1 **Report title** **Attendance of the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the report.

2.1.2 **Report title** **Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Business Management**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

(a) note the report

(b) request that the report on the lessons learned from the procurement process for the purchase of specialist cremator supplies be submitted to this Committee

- (c) note that a briefing note will be provided to Members on what percentage of adult social care clients' contributions to their care package is collected and whether any administrative fees are charged.

2.1.3 Report title Council Plan 2016/2017 – 2020/2021

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the Council Plan for 2016/17-2020/21 and its indicators and key projects, acknowledging that the new 3 key priorities (Medway: a place to be proud of; Maximise regeneration and economic growth and Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential) had been devised to reflect the Council's transformation agenda and were not intended to reflect the whole range of Council services.

2.1.4 Report title Draft Capital and Revenue Budgets 2016/2017

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the draft capital and revenue budget for 2016/17, proposed by Cabinet on 24 November 2015, insofar as they affect this Committee;
- (b) note that a briefing note on changes to business rates and the public health commissioning draft budget will be provided to the Committee
- (c) ask Cabinet, when considering proposals for income generation through commercial charging, to take into account the social impact of such proposals and balance the advantages of increased income against the risks of social exclusion to Council services and facilities.

Cabinet decision:

The Cabinet noted the recommendations from overview and scrutiny committees as summarised in Appendix 1 to the report.

- 16/2016 The Cabinet recommended to Council the capital budget proposals, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.
- 17/2016 The Cabinet recommended to Council that the net revenue budget summarised at Appendix 2 to the report, amounting to £319.620 million, should be adopted and that this be funded by a 3.994% increase in Council Tax for 2016/17 with the equivalent Band D figure at £1,234.89. Final proposals to address the £3.363 million gap would be reported to Council on 25 February 2016.
- 18/2016 The Cabinet recommended to Council the fees and charges set out at Appendix 6 to the report.
- 19/2016 The Cabinet requested the Chief Finance Officer to calculate the formal requirements under Sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for resolution by Special Council on 25 February 2016.

2.1.5. **Report title: Draft Capital and Revenue Budget Proposals 2016/2017 (report back from Overview and Scrutiny Committees)**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the comments from individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees, as set out in Section 3, and forward these comments to Cabinet on 9 February 2016;
- (b) note that a briefing note on social impact bonds requested by the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee would also be sent to Members of this Committee

Cabinet decision: see 2.1.4 above

2.1.6. **Housing Revenue Account – Revenue and Capital Budgets 2016/17**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet:

- (a) that the rent cycle move from a 50 week rent payment year to a 52 week rent payment year for both the housing stock and garages;
- (b) a proposed rent decrease of 1% for the housing stock as set out in Appendix A to the report (based upon 52 collection weeks);
- (c) a rent increase of 2% for garages;
- (d) that the service charges and increases as set out in Appendix B of the report for 2016/17 be approved;
- (e) that the revenue budget for the HRA Service for 2016/2017 as per Appendix C of the report be approved;
- (f) that the provision for the repayment of debt continues to be based on a minimum revenue payment of 2% on the 2016/17 HRA opening outstanding debt;
- (g) to increase the 2016/17 HRA housing building development programme amount by the available RTB 1-4-1 capital receipts and remaining from 2015/16 MRP payment as set out in paragraph 9.5 of the report.

Cabinet decision:

The Cabinet noted the recommendations from the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

14/2016 The Cabinet recommended to Council:

- a) That the rent cycle move from a 50 week rent payment year to a 52 week rent payment year for both the housing stock and garages.
- b) A proposed rent decrease of 1% for the housing stock as set out in Appendix A to the report (based upon 52 collection weeks).
- c) A rent increase of 2% for garages.
- d) That the service charges and increases as set out in Appendix B to the report for 2016/17 be approved.
Cabinet, 9 February 2016
- e) That the revenue budget for the HRA Service for 2016/17 as per Appendix C to the report be approved.
- f) That the provision for the repayment debt continues to be based on a minimum revenue payment of 2% on the 2016/17 HRA opening outstanding debt.
- g) To increase the 2016/17 HRA housing building development programme amount by the available Right To Buy (RTB) 1-4-1 capital receipts and the funds remaining from 2015/16 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) payment as set out in paragraph 9.5 of the report.

2.1.7. **Report title:** **6 Month Review of Welfare Reform Task Group Review**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the progress made against the actions from the review.

2.1.8 **Report title: Work Programme**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the work programme (set out in appendix 1 to the report);
- (b) agree the proposed changes to the current work programme set out in paragraph 3 and
- (c) note the work programme of all overview and scrutiny committees (set out in appendix 2 to the report).

3. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3.1. 19 January 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=3229>

3.1.1. **Report title: Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and the responses provided from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services.

3.1.2. **Report title: Annual Public Health Report of the Director of Public Health 2014/2015**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

3.1.3. **Report title: Outcomes of Consultation for the Proposed Prescribed Alterations at Blight Infant and Junior Schools**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and recommended the Cabinet to progress the proposals further.

Cabinet decision:

23/2016 The Cabinet noted the responses to the informal consultation together with the advice and analysis from officers and the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and agreed to instruct the Director of Children and Adults Services to commence the period of statutory representation for the proposed changes to Bligh Infant and Junior Schools, as set out in paragraph 11.1 of the report, when statutory notices and full proposals will be published.

24/2016 The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Children and Adults Services, in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, to determine whether to approve the proposals at the end of the statutory consultation period if no objections are received. However, if any objections are received during that time then a report will be prepared and presented to Cabinet for determination.

3.1.4. Report title: Support for Care Leavers Task Group: Progress Report
Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and thanked the Leaving Care Team Manager for her work in achieving the 'good' rating for services to care leavers in the recent Ofsted inspection.

3.1.5. Report title: Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care Services
Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

3.1.6. Report title: Work programme
Outcome:

The Committee agreed the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to the items scheduled for 3 March 2016 meeting on Integrated Family Support Services and Medway Safeguarding Children Board being deferred to the following meeting.

3.1.7. Report title: Call in: Review of Early Years and Sure Start Children's Centre Services
Outcome:

The Committee agreed to take no further action in respect of the call in of the Cabinet decision (2/2016) to commence consultation on reconfiguring services, including the proposal for significant changes to the management and staffing of Medway's 19 Sure Start Children's Centres, and a reorganisation of the authority's early years services.

3.1.8. **Report title:** **Call in: Future Integrated Youth Support Services Delivery**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to take no further action in respect of the call in of the Cabinet decisions (3-6/2016) in relation to the commissioning of the three Medway young people's services, Youth service, Youth Offending Service and YES IAG service and the related consultation.

3.2 **3 March 2016**

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=3230>

3.2.1. **Report title:** **Attendance of the Regional Schools Commissioner**

Outcome:

The Committee thanked the Regional Schools Commissioner for the South-East and South London, Dominic Herrington, for his attendance.

3.2.2. **Report title:** **Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services**

Outcome:

The Portfolio Holder was thanked for his attendance.

3.2.3. **Report title:** **Medway's Annual Schools' Performance Report for 2015**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

Cabinet decision:

The Cabinet noted the Annual Schools' Achievement

3.2.4. **Report title:** **Proposed Development of The Health Service or Variation in Provision of Health Service – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS)**

Outcome:

1) The Committee considered the proposed reconfiguration and recommissioning of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service to be a substantial health service variation.

2) The Committee recommended the Draft Service Model to the Cabinet to agree for consultation.

Cabinet decision:

The Cabinet noted the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board in relation to the Draft Service Model for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services in Medway.

56/2016 The Cabinet approved the Draft Service Model, as set out in Appendix A to the report, for formal public and stakeholder consultation, commensurate with the requirements for a Substantial Variation to Local Healthcare.

57/2016 The Cabinet approved the proposed commissioning timeline and procurement approach as set out in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of the report.

58/2016 The Cabinet approved the consultation, communication and engagement plans as set out in section 6 of the report.

3.2.5. Report title: Medway Youth Parliament – Annual Conference Findings

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and thanked the Medway Youth Parliament for their submission.

3.2.6. Report title: Council Plan Q3 2015/2016 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

3.2.7. Report title: Work programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed the work programme as set out at Appendix 1, subject to the 16-19 Strategy being added to the list of items for the May 2016 meeting.

4. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1. 26 January 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3258>

4.1.1. Report title: Update on Care Quality Commission Inspection

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) invited the Chief Executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) to share with the Committee, at the next meeting, the action plan to address the issues in the Care Quality Commission inspection report, and any further progress made;
- (b) agreed that the Chair, Vice-Chair and spokespersons of the Committee should consider, outside of the meeting, how best to obtain feedback and patient experience in relation to a specific area of hospital care, such as the frailty pathway and/or mortality, with a view to discussing all relevant issues with the Committee at a later date. (The hospital, Pensioners Forum, Healthwatch Medway, service users, their carers and the voluntary sector would be invited to contribute to that debate once it is programmed);
- (c) requested a joint report to the next meeting from MFT and the Deputy Director (Children and Adults) on an update on discharge planning;
- (d) requested briefing notes from MFT on the following topics raised during the meeting:
 - results of the staff survey
 - capital programmes
 - plans for new technology at the hospital

4.1.2. Report title: Acute mental health inpatient bed review update

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) supported the ongoing work outlined in the report and requested a further update to the first meeting in the new municipal year.

4.1.3. Report title: Dementia Gap Analysis and Joint Commissioning Plan

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report;
- (b) noted that the comments made during the meeting would be shared at the point of scoping the Member in-depth review into how far Medway has gone in developing a dementia-friendly community.

4.1.4. Report title: Work programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) agreed to add to the work programme an item on Urgent and Emergency Care Review on a date to be agreed;
- (b) noted the outcome of the Joint Health Scrutiny (JHOSC) meeting with Kent County Council held on 8 January 2016 (see item 6 of this report)
- (c) noted that the report on 'blue light' conveyances for Swale residents had been dealt with as a briefing note
- (d) noted that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and spokespersons of the Committee, with a representative from adult social care, would be meeting with the Emergency Care Improvement Team at the hospital shortly.

4.2 17 March 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3259>

4.2.1 Report title: Scrutiny of South East Coast Ambulance Trust

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) agreed that a Member visit to NHS 111 in Ashford is arranged;
- (b) requested a further report on the benchmarking with the East Kent pilot on NHS 111 and 999 be brought to the Committee later in Autumn 2016;
- (c) requested an update on staffing at NHS 111, including training undertaken.

4.2.2 Report title: Action Plan following the Care Quality Commission inspection of Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted that the implementation plan and the key parameters against which Medway NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) were being measured weekly would be shared with Members by the end of March 2016;
- (b) consideration would be given, outside of the meeting, to whether the Chief Executive and Chairman of MFT needed to be invited to the June 2016 meeting of the Committee to give a further update.

4.2.3. **Report title: Patient Transport Update**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that there would be a written statement of the patient transport contracts going live in July 2016 and an update back to the Committee in November 2016.

4.2.4 **Report title: Medway Health and Wellbeing Board – Review of progress**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- (a) to request the relevant officer from the Regeneration, Community and Culture Directorate to investigate access issues in relation to a number of Medway allotments which may be preventing people from being able to use them;
- (b) that when the Health and Wellbeing Board are next held to account by the Committee a topic of specific scrutiny is selected at the pre-agenda meeting from the Health and Wellbeing Board's areas of work and notified to the Health and Wellbeing Board Members.

4.2.5 **Report title: Joint follow up briefing on Discharge Planning**

Outcome:

The Committee requested a briefing note on the implementation of the "Home First" scheme (which enables people to return home to be assessed rather than remaining in hospital) and an update on nursing home capacity.

4.2.6. **Report title: Council Plan Q3 2015/2016 Performance Monitoring Report**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

4.2.7 **Report title: Work programme**

Outcome:

The Committee:

(a) noted the following:

- The Adult Social Care Strategy should be programmed for 21 June 2016 meeting
- An all Member briefing on dentistry be set up
- A briefing note would be circulated to the Committee by the Accountable Officer, NHS Medway CCG in relation to acute inpatient mental health beds following the publication of a Kent Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee paper on 25 February as set out in 3.1 of the report
- A future report would be brought to the Committee in relation to the proposed closure of St Bartholomew's Hospital in Rochester

(b) agreed that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and spokespersons of the Committee in conjunction with the Designated Scrutiny Officer should determine whether or not to comment on the Care Quality Commission's inspection of South East Coast Ambulance Trust;

(c) noted the outcome from the meeting with the Lead of the Emergency Care Improvement Programme in relation to potential areas of future scrutiny, and a further briefing note be sent to the Committee as set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report;

(d) agreed that the next Task Group on "how far has Medway gone in becoming a dementia friendly community" should be set up with a membership drawn from this Committee in the ratio 3:1:1 as set out in paragraph 6.3 of the report.

5. Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5.1 28 January 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=3251>

5.1.1 Report title: Petitions

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the petition responses and appropriate officer actions set out in paragraph 3 of the report; and
- (b) noted the response from officers concerning the petition requesting parking to be provided after 6pm in Church Street, Chatham and requested that this be conveyed to the petitioner.

5.1.2 **Report title: Attendance of the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services**

Outcome:

The Committee thanked Councillor Doe for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions and it was noted that Councillor Doe had offered to consider the possibility of opening the toilet facilities at Capstone Farm Country Park and Riverside Country Park on Boxing Day.

5.1.3 **Report title: Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering questions;
- (b) requested officers to arrange a visit for Members to the University Technology College;
- (c) noted that officers will provide further information to Members on the following funds
 - Social Housing Mobility Fund
 - Domestic Abuse Fund
 - Building Better Opportunities
- (d) requested that future reports provide a greater clarity to the Portfolio Holder's responsibilities as they relate to this Committee.

5.1.4 **Report title: Annual Review of Waste Contracts**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the content of the report including the annual service updates provided by Veolia and FCC in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report; and
- (b) noted that Veolia will be providing a number of wheelie bins at flatted developments which will be identified by either the number or name of the block of flats.

5.1.5 Report title: Street Licensing – Placing Objects on the Highway

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the policy document intended to cover the whole of Medway and the proposed pilot for Chatham Town Centre scheduled to begin in June 2016 pending approval by Cabinet and Full Council and made the following suggested changes to the policy document:
 - the policy include wording to state that should approval be granted for a shop front display, tables and chairs and/or A boards, this does not give permitted rights to have future automatic approvals
 - the wording of 2 (c) (i), 3 (b) (v) and 5 (b) (viii) be clarified so as to be consistent
 - consideration be given to the £40 enforcement fee being an escalating scale for repeat offenders
- (b) requested that a further report be submitted to this Committee in the Summer of 2017 on the outcome of the pilot scheme;
- (c) noted that the Assistant Director, Front Line Services will investigate those sites identified by Members in Strood South and Rochester High Street to assess whether their displays are causing an obstruction to the highway;
- (d) noted the suggestion that when the policy is in place, officers walk down Chatham High Street and take enforcement action for each non complying shop keeper.

5.1.6 Report title: Cultural Activities

Outcome:

The Committee endorsed the progress made thus far in delivering Medway's Cultural Strategy 2014-2019.

5.1.5 Report title: Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee noted the current work programme.

5.2 29 March 2016

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=132&MIId=3252>

5.2.1 Report title: Petitions

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the petition responses and appropriate officer actions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report;
- b) note the Director's comments at paragraph 5 of the report concerning the petition referral request and endorse the proposal outlined at the

meeting that a Parking Engineer liaises with local residents to try to find a positive solution.

5.2.2. **Report title: Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Business Management**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) thank the Portfolio Holder for Business Management for attending the meeting and answering questions;
- b) ask for information on the number of prosecutions for fly tipping to be provided;
- c) ask for reports on the amount of fly tipping collected in Medway to examine if there is a link with the charge for the collection of bulky waste.

5.2.3. **Report title: Housing (Demand, Affordability and Supply) Task Group**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to :

- a) endorse the report from the Housing Task Group and commend it to the Business Support O&S Committee for approval;
- b) ask that a briefing for Members on the Housing and Planning Bill be arranged.

5.2.4. **Report title: Presentation on Highways**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the report and the presentation;
- b) thank Mr Phil Moore, the Head of Highways and Parking, for his huge contribution to the Council and wish him well for the future.
- c) ask for details of what levels of finance is needed to be invested in the highways network in order to maintain current levels of technical performance

5.2.5. **Report title: Council Plan Monitoring 2015/2016 – Quarter 3**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the Q3 2015/16 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2015/16.
- b) forward the comments outlined above on the Council Plan to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- c) recommend to Cabinet that, particularly in the light of conclusions from the Housing Task Group about the need for more homes to be built, it reconsiders Target NI 154 (Net Additional Homes Provided) for 2017/18.

5.2.6 Report title: Work programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the current work programme, and;
- b) agree that information on the Kent and Medway Growth Deal and also plans for expansion of markets be circulated as briefing notes and these items be removed from the list of outstanding reports on the work programme.

6 Joint NHS Scrutiny Committee with Kent County Council

8 January 2016

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Mid=6314&x=1&>

Report title: Kent and Medway Vascular Services Review

RESOLVED that:

- (a) NHS England South (South East) be requested to note comments about the proposed clinical model of a single Kent and Medway arterial hub with spokes working in a network across Kent and Medway, the development of the clinical model and further stakeholder engagement.
- (b) NHS England South (South East) be requested to provide the following additional information at the next meeting of the Committee: population maps; performance indicators of the current service; findings and learning from other reconfigurations nationally and regionally; and the services to be provided in the spokes.
- (c) NHS England South (South East) be requested to present an update to the JHOSC Committee on 26 February 2016.

Report title: Kent and Medway Hyper Acute and Acute Stroke Services Review

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Kent and Medway Stroke Review Programme Board be requested to note the Committee's comments and take them into account during the detailed options development and appraisal.
- (b) Kent and Medway CCGs be requested provide details of travel information at the next meeting of the Committee.
- (c) Kent and Medway CCGs be requested to present an update including options for public consultation to the JHOSC Committee on 26 February 2016.

Background papers

None

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Appendices

None