

# Public Document Pack



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07 June 2023

Dear Councillor

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** on Monday 12 June 2023 at 6.00 pm, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

4 **MINUTES** (Pages 2 - 13)

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27 February 2023, 13 March 2023 and 17 April 2023.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Nicky", written over a white, wave-like shape that matches the Dover District Council logo.

Chief Executive

Minutes of the meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Monday, 27 February 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor C D Zosseder

Councillors: T A Bond  
D R Friend  
D A Hawkes  
M W Rose  
H M Williams

Also Present: Inspector P Barrell (Kent Police)  
Inspector L Woolnough (Kent Police)  
Councillor O C de R Richardson

Officers: Head of Transformation  
Community Services Manager  
Transport and Parking Services Manager  
Principal Community Development Officer  
Principal Community Safety, Emergency Planning and CCTV Officer  
Democratic and Corporate Services Manager

85 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R S Walkden and P Walker.

86 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, Councillor D G Beaney had been appointed as substitute member for Councillor R S Walkden.

87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

88 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that no members of the public had registered to speak on items on the agenda to which the public speaking protocol applied.

89 CRIME AND DISORDER UPDATE

The Head of Transformation introduced the Crime and Disorder Update.

Also present were:

- Inspector Paul Barrell (Kent Police)
- Inspector Leigh Woolnough (Kent Police)
- Community Services Manager
- Principal Community Development Officer
- Community Safety, CCTV and Emergency Planning Team Leader

- Councillor O C de R Richardson, Portfolio Holder for Community and Corporate Property

The presentation covered the following points:

#### An update on the Neighbourhood Policing (NHP) Review

Members were informed that Kent Police had a forecast budget deficit of £16-20 million in 2023/24. However, the proposed changes to NHP would maintain or enhance the service to the public and in particular the service provided to victims and witnesses. The required savings would therefore not compromise the overarching principles behind NHP.

The new model for the Dover CSU would see an increase in the number of constables from 8 to 18 with a reduction in PCSO's from 9 to 6, resulting in an overall increase in Dover CSU numbers from 20 to 27. There would also be centrally controlled but locally based assets such as the rural policing taskforce and licensing and ASB officers.

Every ward would also have a named contact officer assigned and there would be quarterly meetings with councillors and other elected representatives.

#### Recorded crime in the Dover District

There had been work undertaken to map where the areas of greatest harm were in the Dover District and the three with the highest levels of harm were Town and Castle Ward (22%), St Radigunds Ward (13%) and Buckland Ward (8%).

In terms of solved crime, this was 10.7% for the Dover District. This compared to 7.8% nationally and 10.2% countywide. Only Folkestone and Hythe had a better rate in East Kent.

#### My Community Voice

In terms of community engagement, Kent Police would provide a monthly newsletter and ward updates via 'My Community Voice'. Members were urged to sign up to this at [www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk](http://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk) and asked to encourage constituents to also do so.

#### CCTV

Members were advised that CCTV data had been involved in capturing 3114 incidents across the district from 111 cameras. The top five incident types were as followed:

- Nuisance Youths (305)
- Disturbance (245)
- Alcohol Related Disorder (245)
- Shoplifting (175)
- Assault (172)

#### Community Safety

Members were advised that the Community Safety Team had developed a newsletter that provided an update on the work of the team.

Beehive Project – The Council had worked with the Dover Outreach Centre and the Vineyard Church to set up a Safe space for those who may be deemed as vulnerable in the Community. The Safe space would be operated by volunteers who had received training to support vulnerable people seeking support services.

#### Community Development Projects

Aspire Project – this project aimed to tackle rising unemployment and obesity holistically through gardening and eating well. The project had 94 active participants in East Kent.

Roots to Work – this project would co-ordinate and implement the set-up of a mobile hub to help the over 50 year olds looking to get back into employment utilising the Community Roots Van.

Inspire Families – this was a one-year project that supported 328 households to complete an activity together as a family.

Inspire – this project had been running for 7 years and had dealt with over 2,000 referrals for children and young people. The project aimed to help young people overcome challenging circumstances to create new friendships, develop healthy lifestyles, build confidence, and have opportunities to learn new skills.

Members welcomed the presentation and discussed the proposed changes to Neighbourhood Policing, which were cautiously welcomed. The need for a named officer for each ward was emphasised following changes to the PCSO structure.

In respect of community services, Members praised the work of the team and the positive working relationship between officers and Members. The improved data relating to ASB was also welcomed.

Councillor C D Zosseder thanked Kent Police and officers for attending the meeting and providing an informative update on crime and disorder. She suggested that a dedicated crime and disorder meeting may be something to consider for future updates.

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm.

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Minutes of the meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Monday, 13 March 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor C D Zosseder

Councillors: E A Biggs (as substitute for Councillor P M Brivio)  
T A Bond  
D R Friend  
D A Hawkes  
S C Manion  
H M Williams

Also Present (virtually): Rebecca Spore (Director of infrastructure, KCC)  
Ben Sherreard (Programme Manager, KCC)  
Hema Birdi (Assistant Director, Adolescents and Open Access (Eastern Division), KCC)

Officers: Strategic Director (Corporate and Regulatory)  
Democratic and Corporate Services Manager

## 90 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P M Brivio, M Rose, R S Walkden and P Walker.

## 91 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, Councillors D G Beaney and E A Biggs had been appointed as substitute members for Councillors R S Walkden and P M Brivio respectively.

## 92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S C Manion declared a Voluntary Announcement of Other Interest (VOAI) in Minute No. 99 (Kent County Council Services Consultation).

Councillor T A Bond declared a Voluntary Announcement of Other Interest (VOAI) in Minute No. 99 (Kent County Council Services Consultation).

## 93 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 12 December 2022, 23 January 2023 and 20 February 2023 were approved as a correct record for signing by the Chairman.

## 94 DECISIONS OF THE CABINET RELATING TO RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Cabinet did not consider any decisions relating to recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its last meeting.

## 95 ISSUES REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY PUBLIC PETITION, COUNCIL, CABINET, OR ANOTHER COMMITTEE

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that a Motion had been referred to the Committee by the full Council. The Motion was read out by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as followed:

“This Council notes that there is more work to be done to encourage a more diverse range of candidates for elections in future, in order that councillors better reflect the diverse communities they serve.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to include in the Committee work programme consideration of how more residents from across those communities can be encouraged to participate in local democracy and potentially stand as candidates in future council elections.”

Councillor C D Zosseder proposed that the Motion should be considered by the new Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its first meeting on 12 June 2023.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting that the consideration of the Motion for inclusion in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee’s work programme be deferred to the meeting to be held on 12 June 2023.

96 NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING KEY DECISIONS

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager presented the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to the Committee for its consideration.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting to note the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions.

97 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager presented the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme to the Committee for its consideration. Members were advised that matters beyond May 2023 would be for the new Overview and Scrutiny Committee to determine for inclusion within its work programme.

Members agreed to note the work programme subject to the inclusion of the Motion from the full Council as an item for future consideration for the work programme.

98 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that no members of the public had registered to speak on items on the agenda to which the public speaking protocol applied.

99 KENT COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICES CONSULTATION

Councillor C D Zosseder welcomed the virtual attendance of Rebecca Spore (Director of infrastructure, KCC), Ben Sherreard (Programme Manager, KCC) and Hema Birdi (Assistant Director, Adolescents and Open Access (Eastern Division), KCC) to speak to the matter of the KCC Community Services Consultation.

A presentation was provided to Members that outlined the reasons why the consultation had been undertaken and what the proposals were for community

services in the Dover District. Members were directed to the document in their agenda that summarised these proposals.

The drivers for change were the need to:

- reduce the high costs associated with maintaining a large number of buildings
- find savings to balance the budget
- meet the commitments made in the KCC Net Zero action plan by 2030
- provide effective support to residents in need of the services

The proposals would deliver the following benefits:

- Revenue savings between £5.6 – 6.9 million
- Reduction of maintenance liabilities of at least £7.3 million
- Capital receipts of up to £7.5 million
- 22% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

The proposals would affect the delivery of services as followed:

<u>Sites proposed to deliver services from</u>	<u>Sites it was proposed to leave</u>
Dover Discovery Centre (community hub)	Sunflower Children's Centre
Buckland Children's Centre (family hub)	Blossom Children's Centre
Deal Youth Hub (family hub)	Dover Gateway (service relocation)
Samphire Children's Centre (family hub)	Walmer Centre (service relocation)
Deal Adult Education Centre (community, learning and skills)	

In the case of the Dover Gateway and the Walmer Centre the service would be relocated to Dover Discovery Centre.

The intention was where possible to deliver multiple services from buildings to enhance how services worked together and serve the community more holistically.

The proposals would also see the continued use of outreach services which were the most effective way of reaching some of the most vulnerable residents and an expanded digital offer which was more convenient for many residents and gave them better access to services.

As part of the consultation there had been drop-in sessions in February 2023 held in Deal and Dover. The consultation ran until 26 March 2023 and it was expected that the KCC Cabinet would make a decision in July 2023 for implementation if approved in early 2024.

Members raised the following points in response to the presentation:

- To express concern over the lack of detail in respect of future service delivery.
- That recent improvements such as the sensory room in Blossoms risked being lost by relocating the service to a new facility.
- Whether all the buildings could be disposed of for the projected capital receipts.
- Whether the cost of breaking leases on some of the buildings had been considered.

- The compatibility of co-locating some services, such as early years and teens at Linwood.
- To welcome the principle of outreach service expansion but to express concern over the lack of detail in respect of the services and what the cost of delivering outreach services would be.
- To express concerns over access to the new hubs by public transport or on foot. There was discussion over how the 30-minute travel time to the sites had been calculated and what the cost of using public transport would be to service users. References were made to the impact of cuts to rural bus services.
- To express concern that while services were being centralised, the towns were growing in a de-centralised way.
- The need for outreach services to be delivered safely.
- The importance of partnerships in service delivery.

The Programme Manager (KCC) advised that they had not tried to pre-judge the outcome of the consultation and that further detail would emerge in due course. However, if the principle of 'need' driving service delivery was accepted then it should be accepted that service delivery would need to change over time in response to changing needs.

As part of the consultation, engagement had been undertaken with key stakeholders as well as the public. In respect of consultation responses, a statement explaining why a service should continue to be delivered in a particular way would have more impact in shaping the final proposals.

Councillor C D Zosseder thanked the officers from Kent County Council for attending and extended an invitation, which was accepted, for them to return to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee once more concrete proposals on service delivery were known.

## 100 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD – THIRD QUARTER 2022/23

The Strategic Director (Corporate and Regulatory) presented the Strategic Performance Dashboard for Quarter 3, 2022/23.

In response to concerns from Members that the Strategic Performance Dashboard was not particularly strategic, the Strategic Director (Corporate and Regulatory) advised that following the trial year of the new Dashboard it would be reviewed and that a revised format would be brought to Members. It was acknowledged that it needed to be simpler and more strategic in the indicators it focussed on.

Members raised the following points in relation to the Strategic Performance Dashboard:

- To congratulate the Head of Property Assets on his teams work over the last year.
- To question the accuracy of the Dover footfall figures. Members expressed concern it did not match with their anecdotal experience.
- To express concern at the parking income figures forecast. It was stated that this was a forecast and subject to potential change.
- To question if the decrease in leisure centre usage part of a trend or a temporary situation. Anecdotally it was noted that the Dover Leisure Centre remained busy.

- In respect of questions relating to specific indicators HOM012 and HOM013, it was suggested that this would be better discussed with officers outside of the meeting.

It was with the affirmation of the meeting agreed to note the Strategic Dashboard for Quarter 3, 2022/23.

(Councillor T A Bond declared a Voluntary Announcement of Other Interest by reason of his wife's employment.)

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm.

# Public Document Pack

Minutes of the meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Monday, 17 April 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor C D Zosseder

Councillors: T A Bond  
P M Brivio  
D R Friend  
S C Manion  
R S Walkden  
H M Williams

Officers: Strategic Director (Place and Environment)  
Head of Place, Growth, Investment and Creative Services  
Head of Property Assets  
Environmental Protection and Crime Manager  
Senior Environmental Protection Officer (P/T)  
Strategic Project Manager  
Democratic and Corporate Services Manager

## 101 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D A Hawkes, M Rose and P Walker.

## 102 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that no notice had been received for the appointment of substitute members.

## 103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor T A Bond declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in Minute No. 111 (Adoption of Indoor Sports Facility Strategy 2023-2040) and 115 (Your Leisure Additional Funding) by reason of his wife's employment and advised that he would withdraw from the meeting for the consideration of those items of business.

## 104 MINUTES

The consideration of the Minutes was deferred.

## 105 DECISIONS OF THE CABINET RELATING TO RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no decisions of the Cabinet relating to recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## 106 ISSUES REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY PUBLIC PETITION, COUNCIL, CABINET, OR ANOTHER COMMITTEE

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that there were no issues referred to the Committee by Council, Cabinet or another Committee.

107 NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING KEY DECISIONS

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager presented the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to the Committee for its consideration.

In the absence of any dissent, it was agreed to note the Work Programme.

108 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager presented the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme to the Committee for its consideration.

Councillor C D Zosseder thanked Members and Officers for their work in delivering the work programme over the previous year.

109 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Democratic and Corporate Services Manager advised that no members of the public had registered to speak on items on the agenda to which the public speaking protocol applied.

110 APPROVAL OF AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN FOR CONSULTATION

The Environmental Protection & Crime Manager presented the report on the Approval of the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for consultation.

Members were advised that the Council's last AQAP was published in October 2007. The Environment Act 1995 required that AQAPs needed to be reviewed periodically and although there was no time limit is set for this to be done by the guidance suggested that it should be no later than every five years.

The current review, while outside of the five year period suggested by the guidance, reflected the need to review following changes to the road layouts in the 2 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the district and the impact of Covid-19 and Brexit. The Council was required to consult with relevant stakeholders and the public on the measures proposed in the AQAP and the this would take place over a 6-week period between June and July 2023.

Members were advised that the last time the readings in the AQMA exceeded limits was in 2019. Although not part of an AQMA, the Council had monitored air quality in Aycliffe as a result of TAP and none of the readings in the residential area exceeded the limits.

In response to a question concerning air quality around schools in Deal, Members were informed that the monitoring had shown that there were no air quality concerns. In respect of monitoring at Barton School, the Council was aware from the data that there were spikes in pollution, but the average level was below the limits. The Council worked to Government guidance in respect of air quality levels.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the decision of the Cabinet to approve the Draft Air Quality Action Plan for the purposes of public consultation be endorsed.

111 ADOPTION OF INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY 2023-2040

The Strategic Development Lead Officer (Leisure) presented the report on the Adoption of an Indoor Sports Facility Strategy 2023-2040.

The purpose of the Indoor Sports Facility Strategy was to help guide potential decisions around rationalisation and investment and community use of school facilities. It would also provide evidence to support the Local Plan in determining what facilities were needed in areas of the district and enable the council to seek developer contributions from qualifying new developments.

As a result of the representations received through the consultation there were no significant changes required to the draft strategy.

Members discussed the provision of facilities in Aylesham and the potential use of school facilities.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting to note the report.

(Councillor T A Bond declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item of business by reason of his wife's employment and withdrew from the meeting for the consideration of this item of business.)

112 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved by Councillor D R Friend, duly seconded by Councillor H M Williams and

RESOLVED: That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business on the grounds that the items to be considered involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

113 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROVISION OF HEATING, SERVICING, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE WORKS TO COUNCIL PROPERTIES

The Head of Property Assets presented the report on the Award of Contract for Provision of Heating, Servicing, Installation and Maintenance Works to Council Properties.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting to note the report.

114 DOVER BEACON PROJECT

The Head of Place, Growth, Investment and Creative Services presented the report on the Dover Beacon Project.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting to note the report.

115 YOUR LEISURE ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The Strategic Development Lead Officer (Leisure) presented the report on Your Leisure Additional Funding.

It was agreed with the affirmation of the meeting to note the report.

(Councillor T A Bond declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item of business by reason of his wife's employment and withdrew from the meeting for the consideration of this item of business.)

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm.