

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.