



Minutes of a meeting of the **RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 12 February 2015.

Present: Mr J M Lammie - Chairman (in the Chair)
Mr R Clifton
Mr W J Cross
Mr J R Munton
Mrs C L Vernon
Miss G Waller

In attendance: Mr T C King Portfolio Holder for Places (Development) and Finance
Mr M D A Pocock Portfolio Holder for Places (Environment and Transport) and Resources

Officers present: Mrs D Mogg Director for Resources
Miss S Croad Corporate Support Officer

Apologies: Mr S Asplin
Mr D C Hollis
Mr C A Parsons

749 RECORD OF MEETING

The Record of the Meeting of the Resources Scrutiny Panel held on 11 December 2014, copies of which had been previously circulated, was confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The Record of the Meeting of the Special Resources Scrutiny Panel held on 14 January 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated, was confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

750 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in respect of the items on the agenda for this meeting.

751 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No petitions, Deputations or Questions had been received from Members of the public.

752 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

No Questions had been received from Members.

753 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS

No Notices of Motion had been received from Members.

754 CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE PANEL FOR A DECISION IN RELATION TO A CALL IN OF A DECISION

No matter was referred to the Panel for a decision in relation to call in of a decision in accordance with Procedure Rule 206.

755 QUARTER 3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT 2014/15

Report No. 40/2015 from the Director for Resources was received the purpose of which was to report on how the Council was performing against its revenue and capital budgets and report a forecast year end outturn position as at 31 December 2014.

The Chairman, Mr. J Lammie, invited the Portfolio for Places (Environment and Transport) and Resources, Mr Pocock, to introduce the report.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. That cost centre 3720, External Audit and Inspection had created £2800 of unnecessary expenditure;
- ii. There was a saving on cost centre 3718, Training, Conferences and Seminars due to a less than anticipated demand;
- iii. The Panel requested mandatory training to be incorporated in respect of the new Human Resources (HR) Policies. The Director assured the panel this was already taking place;
- iv. That there was an over spend on cost centre 3840, Legal Services. This was due to a number of one off items that will not create an ongoing pressures ;
- v. That the reduction in the quarter 3 budget for cost centre 3021, Housing Benefit Payments was due to a change in accounting treatment in respect of Housing Benefit overpayments;
- vi. That the Public Service Network (PSN) compliance works had created a peak in workload and an increase in telephone calls for the Information Technology (IT) department. Mrs Mogg informed the Panel that plans were in place to manage this;
- vii. That telephone calls coming through the IT department in relation to RAISE would be prioritised as it is considered to be a key system;
- viii. That Rutland County Council (RCC) may need to deal with some elements of Universal Credit at an earlier date due to it having been implemented in South Kesteven District Council. Once an individual is receiving universal credit they take it with them if they move into a different local authority area;
- ix. That cost centre 3102, Head of Business Support should read Head of IT;

- x. That the reason for additional costs to cost centre 3730, RCC Internal Audit was due to an unsuccessful recruitment exercise resulting in a need for an interim arrangements with LGSS;

AGREED:

- i. The Panel noted the contents of Report 40/2015.

756 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 2014/15

Report No. 41/2015 from the Chief Executive was received the purpose of which was to report on the Council's Performance for the third quarter of 2014/15.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. The panel requested a breakdown of the Freedom of Information (FOI) figures by directorate. This will be circulated at a later date;
- ii. That the low percentage of 16-24 year olds working at RCC was due to small numbers seeking employment;
- iii. That the amount of sundry debt recovered could have been higher. This was due to an invoice relating to the Better Care Fund and the timing of when this was raised.

AGREED:

- i. That a breakdown of the FOI figures by team be presented to the Panel at a later date;
- ii. The panel noted the contents of Report 41/2015.

757 REVIEW OF ICT SERVICES

Report no. 49/2015 from the Director of Resources was received the purpose of which was to provide an update on the plan for the review of the ICT services along with the development of an IT Strategy.

The Chairman, Mr. J Lammie, invited the Director of Resources, Mrs D Mogg to give a verbal overview for those Members who had not received a paper copy of the report.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. That the report was only an interim report and that it was too early for details;
- ii. That the strategy aims to increase the number of services that will be available through the Rutland County Council (RCC) website for the public;
- iii. There are monies allocated in next year's budget to update the corporate website. This will provide a wider information service;
- iv. That the systems will be flexible and able to develop alongside the business;

- v. That there is not a general template system for Local Government Authority systems;
- vi. That a new Social Care Case Management system will be purchased by the end of March 2015. The process could not be delayed due to the current system not delivering what was required;
- vii. That Members' email addresses will be converted from GCSX to the standard RCC email address, the exact timeline to be confirmed;
- viii. The aim is to enable Members to access their emails through the webmail system on their personal devices.
- ix. That RCC will be looking at the Moderngov system in the coming weeks. This system is used by other authorities to manage papers and agendas and is available as an application that can be downloaded on to personal devices;
- x. Members of the panel stated that the new system needs to be easy to use, accessible to all and well tested;
- xi. That proper training will be given to all Members on the new system;
- xii. That current emails stored on Members' GCSX accounts can be archived to avoid loss of data.

AGREED:

- i. The panel noted the contents of Report 49/2015.

758 PROCUREMENT OF SOCIAL CARE CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Report no. 42/2015 from the Director of Resources was received the purpose of which was to provide an update on the procurement of a social care case management system across Adults' and Children's Social Care.

The Chairman, Mr. J Lammie, invited the Director for Resources, Mrs D Mogg, to introduce the report.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. That the new system will be fit for purpose and cost effective;
- ii. That demonstrations and training will need to be given so front line staff using the system will have a full understanding of how it will work;
- iii. The panel were disappointed that a new case management system was being introduced a year after the Peer Review Team declared it not fit for purpose;

AGREED

- i. The panel noted the contents of Report 42/2015.

759 REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE SUPPORT TEAM

Report no. 44/2015 from the Director of Resources was received the purpose of which was to provide an update to report 266/2014 received by the Panel on 11 December 2014 with the results of a Members' Survey.

The Chairman, Mr. J Lammie, invited the Portfolio Holder for Places (Environment and Transport) and Resources, Mr Pocock, to introduce the report.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. That changes to meeting clerks was due to a high staff turnover and that efforts will be made in the future to reduce this wherever possible;
- ii. It was commented on that it would be useful for an aide memoire to be available for Chairs at meetings;
- iii. Members thanked the Corporate Support Team for their work.

AGREED

- i. The panel noted the contents of Report 44/2015.

760 REVIEW OF FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan was noted.

761 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

No items of urgent business had been previously notified to the person presiding.

762 DATE AND PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 16 April 2015.

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Chairman closed the meeting at 8:42pm

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