



# **Rutland County Council**

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Thursday, 8th December, 2022 at 7.00 pm

## **PRESENT**

Councillor N Begy (Vice Chair)  
Councillor P Ainsley  
Councillor A Brown  
Councillor P Browne  
Councillor A MacCartney  
Councillor L Toseland  
Councillor R Wilson

## **APOLOGIES**

Councillor G Waller (Chair)  
Councillor E Baines  
Councillor K Bool  
Councillor S Lambert  
Peter French

Diocesan Deputy Director of  
Education, Dioceses of  
Peterborough

## **STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS – EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES**

### **PRESENT**

Andreas Menzies                      Roman Catholic Diocese

### **PORTFOLIO HOLDERS PRESENT**

Councillor L Stephenson	Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy, Strategy, Partnerships and Economy
Councillor K Payne	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Performance, Change and Transformation
Councillor S Harvey	Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

Penny Sharp	Strategic Director of Places
Angela Wakefield	Director of Legal and Governance
Jane Narey (Clerk)	Scrutiny Officer

## **1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Waller, Councillor Baines, Councillor Bool, Councillor Lambert, Peter French (co-opted member). Councillor MacCartney attended the meeting as

Councillor Waller's representative and Councillor P Browne attended as Councillor Lambert's representative.

## **2 RECORD OF MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 17th November 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

## **3 ACTIONS ARISING**

### Action 1

*It was AGREED that a review of the Council's council tax support scheme should be undertaken for the 2024/25 financial year.*

It was confirmed that the action would be completed.

### Action 2

*It was AGREED that the Strategic Director for Resources would discuss with Human Resources the collation of data from staff exit interviews.*

It was confirmed that the action would be completed.

## **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Begy declared a non-pecuniary interest with regards to agenda item 11: Corporate Asset Review and Strategy as his wife was a business tenant at The King's Centre.

## **5 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS**

There were no petitions, deputations or questions.

## **6 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS**

There were no questions with notice member members.

## **7 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS**

There were no notices of motion from members.

## **8 CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO THE CALL-IN OF A DECISION**

There were no call-ins.

## **9 PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' UPDATE**

A verbal briefing was received from Councillor S Harvey regarding Rutland's public health services. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Councillor Harvey gave a short presentation to members (copy attached).
- Health protection was not accounted for in the 2022/23 budget due to receipt of Covid 19 funding but it would be included in next year's budget.

- The overall statutory duty on public health was to 'take appropriate steps to improve the health of people who live in their areas.' This entailed providing sufficient services and activity to tackle the big lifestyle drivers of ill health.
- The public health services provided covered a broad area including sexual health, child health, oral health and the work of community nurses and midwives.
- The miscellaneous services were discretionary and support services that were well placed to improve public health outcomes.
- A report on the 'Recommissioning of Public Health funded Sexual Health Service in Rutland' would be discussed by Cabinet in January 2023, following the public consultation held in the summer of 2022.
- The water supply in Rutland was not fluoridised. The Oral Health Needs Assessment would be discussed by the Rutland Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2023 and its recommendations followed regarding fluoridisation.
- It was agreed that Councillor Harvey would send a full breakdown of the public health housing budget (totalling £104,800) to Councillor Ainsley.

**ACTION: Councillor Harvey**

- Members were informed that costs for 'Housing Improvements' related to the Housing MOT undertaken by the Longhurst Group. This included information and guidance to help people maintain their safety and independence at home e.g. general wellbeing, falls prevention, assistive technology, minor adaptations, alternative housing options, welfare benefit availability etc.
- It was noted that the 'Sustainable Transport Scheme' delivered transport initiatives to encourage people to be more active e.g. walking and cycling and also promoted the use of safe routes to school for children.
- An update on the Visions Children's Centre was requested by Councillor Begy at a future meeting of the scrutiny committee.

**ACTION: Jane Narey**

- £21,000 was funded for the smoking cessation service which was provided by an external contractor. It was agreed that performance data regarding the smoking cessation service would be sent to members.

**ACTION: Councillor Harvey**

- The Active Rutland Hub at Oakham Enterprise Park was the Council's physical activity development team which promoted physical activity amongst Rutland residents such as the Exercise Referral Scheme, the Rutland Walking and Cycling Festival and the Wellbeing@Work Scheme. The Hub also worked very closely with all Rutland schools to promote the benefits of physical exercise. It was agreed that a full financial breakdown of the funding, expenditure, income and net contribution and outcomes regarding Active Rutland Hub would be sent to members.

**ACTION: Councillor K Payne**

## **10 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was proposed by the Chair that the public and press be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as the following item of business was likely to lead to the disclosure of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously carried.

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The Chair closed the public meeting at 7.40 pm  
Councillor Harvey left the meeting at 7.40 pm

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## **11 CORPORATE ASSET REVIEW AND STRATEGY**

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The Chair closed the private meeting and re-opened the public meeting at 8.46 pm

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## **12 GROUP AND PANEL UPDATES**

### **A) CULTURE / ASSET REVIEW**

- The first meeting had been held and the group had met with the Head of Culture and Registration for a tour of the museum.
- It had been agreed that the brief for the group was too narrow and that they should look at the Council's cultural assets as a whole as they were all interlinked e.g. Rutland County Museum, Oakham Castle and the library.
- Information and data e.g. visitor numbers, income, costs etc would be requested for further analysis.
- It was noted that the group planned to meet again before Christmas.

### **B) CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE**

- Discussions had been held with the relevant portfolio holder, Councillor K Payne and the Director for Legal and Governance as well as the Head of IT and Customer Services and the Customer Services Team to go through the operational issues.
- A draft scoping document was shared with members (copy attached). This was approved by the committee subject to any amendments made following its sharing with the relevant officers and portfolio holders.
- Councillor Toseland confirmed that due to ongoing commitments, she would not be able to be a member of the Customer Experience Group.
- The finalised scoping document would be distributed to all non-executive members and volunteers would be requested.

### **C) HIGHWAYS AND SPEEDING**

- Apologies had been received from Councillor Bool so no update was received.

### **D) HOMELESSNESS EVIDENCE PANEL**

- The final report would not be presented to the scrutiny committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> December as previously planned.
- Officers had requested a meeting with the panel members to clarify a number of items within the report before it was published.

### **E) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, DEVOLUTION & LEVELLING UP**

- A briefing session had been held on the 5th December 2022.
- A presentation and briefing were received from Metro Dynamics.
- The deadline for the new economic strategy was the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- Another meeting of the group would be held in January 2023.

## **13 REVIEW OF THE FORWARD PLAN AND ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

The Forward Plan was reviewed and the annual work plan updated accordingly. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- It was proposed that two meetings of the scrutiny committee should be held in January 2023 to scrutinise the draft revenue and capital budget for 2023/24.
- The Monitoring Officer proposed that only the one meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January should go ahead as planned and that if the discussions regarding the draft budget were not concluded within the maximum 3 hours allowed then the meeting would have to be adjourned.
- It was agreed that committee members would submit their questions to Governance ([governance@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:governance@rutland.gov.uk)) regarding the draft revenue and capital budget **prior** to the committee meeting. This would enable officers to provide members with answers within the meeting itself.
- It was proposed that the scrutiny committee meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 should begin at the earlier time of 6pm. It was agreed that the Monitoring Officer and the Clerk would seek approval from the Chief Executive for this proposal.

**ACTION: Jane Narey**

#### **14 ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

#### **15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 13th December 2022 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

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**The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.04 pm.**

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#### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Person</b>
<b>1.</b>	9	Councillor Harvey to send a full breakdown of the public health housing budget (totalling £104,800) to Councillor Ainsley.	<b>Councillor S Harvey</b>
<b>2.</b>	9	The Clerk to arrange for an update on the Visions Children's Centre to be presented at a future meeting of the scrutiny committee as per Councillor Begy's request.	<b>Jane Narey</b>
<b>3.</b>	9	Performance data regarding the smoking cessation service to be sent to members.	<b>Councillor S Harvey</b>
<b>4.</b>	9	A full financial breakdown of the funding, expenditure, income, net contribution and outcomes regarding the Active Rutland Hub to be sent to members.	<b>Councillor K Payne</b>
<b>5.</b>	13	The Monitoring Officer and the Clerk to seek approval from the Chief Executive for the proposal that the scrutiny committee meeting on the 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 should begin at the earlier time of 6pm.	<b>Jane Narey</b>