



Rutland County Council

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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, 15th June, 2023 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT Councillor R Ross (Chair)
Councillor L Stephenson (Vice Chair)
Councillor M Chatfield
Councillor H Edwards
Councillor O Hemsley
Councillor S Lambert
Councillor K Payne
Councillor R Powell

APOLOGIES Councillor N Begy
Councillor T Carr
Peter French Diocesan Deputy Director of Education, Dioceses of Peterborough
Angela Wakefield Strategic Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS – EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Andreas Menzies Roman Catholic Diocese

OFFICERS PRESENT Mark Andrews Chief Executive
Tom Delaney Democratic Services Manager
Jane Narey (Clerk) Scrutiny Officer

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Tracy Carr, Councillor Nick Begy, Angela Wakefield and Peter French. Councillor Oliver Hemsley attended the meeting as Councillor Begy's substitute.

2 RECORD OF MEETING

It was noted that Councillor Stephen Lambert was the only member in attendance that had been a member of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee during 2022/2023. He confirmed that the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 20th April 2023 were an accurate record.

3 ACTIONS ARISING

Action 1

Councillor Stephenson stated that Governance had received a large number of questions from Councillor Begy regarding the minerals authority contract and that officers would provide a written response to those questions for circulation to all members of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Clerk confirmed that this action had been completed.

Action 2

The Development Services Manager confirmed that he would check if NNC had access to RCC's planning portal as was requested in February 2022.

The Clerk informed the Committee that Justin Johnson had confirmed that NNC (North Northamptonshire Council) did not currently have access to the portal but that they had been contacted about getting this arranged.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Oliver Hemsley declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was the lead for the Rutland Chamber of Commerce. There were no other declarations of interest.

5 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No petitions, deputations or question were received.

6 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

No questions with notice with notice were received from Members.

7 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS

No notices of motion were received.

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

No call-ins were received.

9 ELECTION AND APPOINTMENTS

A. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

- Councillor Lucy Stephenson was nominated by Councillor Karen Payne for the role of Vice-Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Rosemary Powell.
- There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

a) Unanimously **APPROVED** Councillor Lucy Stephenson as the Vice-Chair.

B. CONFIRMATION OF STATUTORY MEMBERS - EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES

- The Clerk informed attendees that under Procedure Rule 136 of the Constitution, the Scrutiny Committee had education representatives as statutory co-opted members to speak and vote on matters of education.
- The Clerk confirmed she had written to all the Rutland schools on the 6th June 2023 requesting nominations for parent governor representatives but to date no nominations had been received.
- As per Procedure Rule 136, the following were nominated as the named education representatives:
 - Peter French, Church of England Diocese
 - Andreas Menzies, Roman Catholic Diocese

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) Unanimously **APPROVED** the named nominations as the Statutory Co-opted Members – Education Representatives to the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2023-2024.

C. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

- The Clerk informed attendees that Councillor Ross, as Chair of Rutland's Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee, would attend meetings of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Joint Health Scrutiny Committee but that an additional member and a substitute representative would be required to attend.
- Councillor Lucy Stephenson nominated herself as the additional member. This was seconded by Councillor Karen Payne. There were no other nominations.
- No nominations were received for the role of substitute member. This item would be carried forward to the next meeting for further discussion.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) Unanimously **APPROVED** Councillor Lucy Stephenson as the additional member to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for 2022-2023.

10 SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

Report No. 79/2023 was received from Angela Wakefield, Strategic Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer). The report was presented by Councillor Ramsay Ross, Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Jane Narey, Scrutiny Officer. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The report detailed the items scrutinised during the 2022 to 2023 municipal year plus the groups and panels created by the scrutiny committee and their status prior to the election and included a review from the then Chair and Vice Chair.
- The report also highlighted the review that was completed during the first year of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the resulting recommendations from Council for the 2023-2024 scrutiny committee to action.
- The report would be presented to Council at its meeting on the 10th July 2023.

- Members noted that the report was very clear in identifying what the committee had/had not achieved in 2022-2023 and made clear recommendations for the scrutiny committee moving forward.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) **RECOMMENDED** to Council that it noted the Scrutiny Annual Report 2022-23 and approved its publication.

11 SCRUTINY ANNUAL WORK PLAN

- The Committee reviewed the list of proposed items for the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise during 2023-2024, which was compiled following the Scrutiny Committee Work Programming Session held on the 7th June 2023.
- The Chief Executive confirmed that the proposed list had been reviewed by the Corporate Leadership Team.
- The proposed list was discussed and updated accordingly (copy attached).
- A draft work plan for 2023/2024 and a list of pending items for scrutiny were also created as a result of the updated proposed list (copies attached).
- **Further work would be required by the Committee to prioritise and agree items to ensure that scrutiny added value.**
- The Committee agreed to discuss the following items for inclusion onto the scrutiny work plan at their next meeting:
 - Annual Education Performance Report
 - SACRE Annual Report
 - Safety on our Highways

12 SCRUTINY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- The Clerk informed attendees that Council had recommended that the scrutiny committee for 2023-2024 should develop and implement an improvement plan addressing any areas of concern.
- Volunteers were requested from the scrutiny committee membership to work with the Chair and, with the support of the Clerk, produce a draft improvement plan for discussion/approval at the scrutiny committee meeting in July.
- It was agreed that Councillor Ross would speak with Councillors Begy and Lambert regarding their assistance in developing the scrutiny improvement plan due to their membership on last year's scrutiny committee.

ACTION: Councillor Ross

13 GROUP/PANEL UPDATES

A. ECONOMIC STRATEGY TASK AND FINISH GROUP

- Following a discussion with the Director of Places, Councillor Ross proposed that the completed Economic Development Strategy should go to a final meeting of the Economic Strategy Task and Finish Group.
- It was noted that, as a result of the May election, the Task and Finish Group had been reduced to just two members (Councillor A Brown and Councillor Begy) but that both had confirmed that they would like to continue as members of the group for the final meeting.

- Councillors Stephenson, Ross and K Payne volunteered to be members of the Economic Strategy Task and Finish Group for the final meeting.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) **AGREED** that the Economic Strategy Task and Finish Group would have one final meeting to comment on the final Economic Development Strategy with Councillors Stephenson, Ross and K Payne as new members.

14 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 13 July 2023 at 7 pm in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

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The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

No.	Ref.	Action	Person
1.	12	Councillor Ross to speak with Councillors Begy and Lambert regarding their assistance in developing the scrutiny improvement plan due to their membership on last year's scrutiny committee	Councillor Ross