

**SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD
26TH OCTOBER 2016**

PRESENT: The Chair (Councillor Miah)
The Vice-chair (Councillor Shepherd)
Councillors Bebbington, Bokor, Jukes, Seaton and Sharp

Chief Executive
Head of Landlord Services
Head of Planning and Regeneration
Head of Regulatory Services
Democratic Services Officer (LS)

Councillor Hayes, Deputy Cabinet Lead Member for Regulatory Services and Deputy for Councillor Vardy also attended this meeting in respect of item 6 on the agenda (Car Parking and Related Matters).

APOLOGY: Councillor Smidowicz

17. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th August 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

18. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillors Miah, Shepherd and Sharp declared interests as Leicestershire County Councillors in respect of item 6 on the agenda (Car Parking and Related Matters).

19. DECLARATIONS – THE PARTY WHIP

No declarations were made.

20. QUESTIONS UNDER OTHER COMMITTEE PROCEDURES 11.17

No questions had been submitted.

21. CAR PARKING AND RELATED MATTERS

Considered a report of the Performance Scrutiny Panel setting out a concern of the Panel that the 2015 Charnwood Car Parking Study did not effectively resolve the issues raised by the Car Parking Scrutiny Panel and by the Performance Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 23rd August 2016, and informing the Board of additional information on car parking and related matters that the Performance Scrutiny Panel has requested for its meeting on 11th April 2017 (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Chief Executive, the Head of Planning and Regeneration and the Head of Regulatory Services assisted with consideration of the report.

RESOLVED

1. that the Performance Scrutiny Panel's comment regarding the Car Parking Impact Study that "the timescales identified in the Car Parking Impact Assessment study were perceived as too long term, the Council should consider how to resolve car parking issues in the Borough for the next 2-3 years" be noted;
2. that the Performance Scrutiny Panel's comments regarding other issues relating to car parking and traffic management (listed as italic numbers 1-5 and 7 on pages 2/3 of the report) be noted;
3. that a report of the Scrutiny Management Board **be submitted to the Cabinet** to inform it of the Board's view that, notwithstanding the Cabinet decisions resulting from the Car Parking Scrutiny Panel's work and the action being taken in those respects, car parking needs in the Borough are not being sufficiently addressed or addressed soon enough, in particular:
 - (i) consideration of the need for a new car park in Loughborough;
 - (ii) a pilot project for low cost parking for people working in Loughborough town centre;
 - (iii) car parking need in Shepshed and other settlements;
 - (iv) where matters fall within the County Council's remit, ensuring that the Borough's needs in relation to car parking are made known and working with the County Council where possible to achieve those;
4. that it be noted that the Deputy Cabinet Lead Member for Regulatory Services is currently working with officers on parking matters in the Borough and that the results of that will be set out in a report to be submitted to the Board's meeting on 29th March 2017.

Reasons

- 1.&2. To acknowledge the Panel's comments on these matters.
3. To ensure that the Board's view is made known to Cabinet, following its consideration of the Performance Scrutiny Panel's concerns.
4. The Board was informed by the Deputy Cabinet Lead Member that he wished to report to the Board on this and the Board welcomed information on the Council's position, including explanation where needs could not be met.

22. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Considered a report of Policy Scrutiny Group setting out a recommendation to the Board arising from the Group's scrutiny of the Equality Strategy 2016-2020 (item 7 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Chief Executive assisted with consideration of the report.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Cabinet that Equality Impact Assessments be included as an appendix to Cabinet reports rather than as a background paper.

Reason

To ensure that appropriate consideration and scrutiny was given to those documents.

23. DECENT HOMES CONTRACT SCRUTINY PANEL – 6 MONTH UPDATE

Considered a report of the Head of Strategic Support to enable the Board to consider the implementation of the decisions taken by the Cabinet following its consideration of the report of the Decent Homes Contract Scrutiny Panel and whether any further action was required (item 8 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Chief Executive and the Head of Landlord Services assisted with consideration of the report.

The Chair referred to the work of the Decent Homes Contract Scrutiny Panel having been timely and effective, resulting in a positive outcome for all parties.

RESOLVED

1. that it be noted that implementation is complete in respect of the Cabinet decisions 1-6 and no further monitoring is required;
2. that it be noted that implementation is not complete in respect of Cabinet decisions 7-12 and a further update on those be submitted to the Board at its meeting in October 2017.

Reasons

1. The Board was satisfied that the decisions had been satisfactorily implemented.
2. Decisions 7-12 required actions in the future, therefore it was appropriate to monitor implementation of those in 12 months' time.

24. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY GROUPS AND PANELS

Councillor Bokor left the meeting at 7.25pm prior to consideration of this item being completed.

Considered a report of the Head of Strategic Support to enable the Board to agree the Scrutiny Work Programme, including considering requests from other scrutiny bodies and updates on the delivery of the Work Programme, and identify Key Decisions on which scrutiny could be undertaken (item 9 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

Considered an addendum to the above report to enable the Board to consider a recommendation made by the Decent Homes Contract Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 18th October 2016, following publication of the agenda for this meeting (also filed with these minutes).

The Chief Executive and the Head of Landlord Services assisted with consideration of the item.

RESOLVED

1. that the following item be added to the Policy Scrutiny Group's Work Programme:

Charnwood Grants (Application Criteria) – 7th February 2017;

2. that the following item be added to the Performance Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme, to be considered as part of its existing monitoring of new housing delivery and once the method of monitoring concerned has been developed:

Delivery against Target Housing Mix for New Housing (to be set out in Council's Housing Supplementary Planning Document);

3. that the Chief Executive be asked to establish a member reference group comprising 5 or 6 councillors taken from the membership of the now completed Decent Homes Contract Scrutiny Panel to consider the following:

“Does the process for procuring the new Housing Capital Programme contract put tenants at the heart of the process and ensure that the contract satisfies the expectations of the Council for it?”;

4. that forthcoming Executive Key Decisions or decisions to be taken in private by the Executive, set out in Appendix 1 to the report, and scheduled scrutiny of those matters, be noted;

5. that the Scrutiny Work Programme, set out in Appendix 2 to the report be noted and updated in accordance with decisions taken above and at this meeting.

Reasons

1. To allow the application criteria to be scrutinised at an appropriate time.
2. To ensure appropriate scrutiny of delivery against this target once the information is available.
3. To support the Decent Homes Scrutiny Panel's view that the key stages of the procurement process should be considered by scrutiny councillors with a view to putting tenants at the heart of that process and satisfying the expectations of the Council for the contract, and to enable knowledge gained by councillors in this area to be carried forward to this work. The Board considered that a member reference group, rather than a scrutiny panel, would be a more effective approach, in particular because experience indicated that member reference groups were provided with comprehensive information as a matter of course and were involved from the outset of a process, while noting that scrutiny could consider the matter at any point, if considered necessary.
4. Timely and effective scrutiny had already been scheduled or would be scheduled for future scrutiny meetings.
5. To ensure that the information contained within the Scrutiny Work Programme is up to date.

NOTES

1. No reference may be made to these minutes at Council on 23rd January 2017 unless notice to that effect is given to the Democratic Services Manager by five members of the Council by noon on the fifth working day following publication of the minutes.
2. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record at the next ordinary meeting of Scrutiny Management Board.