

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
24 APRIL 2014**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P J O'CONNOR (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs A M Newton (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, C J T H Brewis, A Bridges, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, A G Hagues, R C Kirk, C E H Marfleet, Mrs M J Overton MBE, C R Oxby, R B Parker, Mrs A E Reynolds and T M Trollope-Bellew.

Officers in attendance:-

Simon Evans (Health Scrutiny Officer), David Hair (Team Leader - Scrutiny and Member Support), Cheryl Hall (Democratic Services Officer), Louise Tyers (Scrutiny Officer) and Richard Wills (Executive Director for Environment and Economy).

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A J Jesson, C L Strange and Mrs C A Talbot and Mr C V Miller, Mrs E J Olivier-Townrow, Mr S C Rudman, Mr P Thompson and Mrs G Wright.

It was noted that the Chief Executive, having received a notice under Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, had appointed Councillor R C Kirk as a replacement member of the Committee in place of Councillor P M Dilks, for this meeting only.

47 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations of Members' interests were made at this stage in the proceedings.

48 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 MARCH 2014

During consideration of the minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 27 March 2014, reference was made to the letter to Lincolnshire MPs (Minute 43 refers), and the Committee was advised that this letter had not yet been sent to the MPs as it was unclear as to whether there was an inequity in funding. It was therefore suggested that this would be clarified with the relevant officers before any letter was sent.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee held on 27 March 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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No Call-Ins had been received.

50 PROPOSAL FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS

No proposals for Scrutiny Reviews had been received.

51 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

The Committee considered a report by the Team Leader (Scrutiny and Member Support), which provided Members with the opportunity to discuss the contents of the draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2013/2014.

It was reported that an Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report was prepared every year for consideration at the County Council's Annual General Meeting. This year's report followed the format of the previous year in highlighting the key aspects of overview and scrutiny work undertaken during 2013/2014. A copy of the draft document was appended to the report.

The following points were noted during discussion by the Committee: -

- Officers explained that previous reports had been quite detailed and lengthy so this report was purposely written in the style of a summary, highlighting key pieces of work that had been undertaken;
- It was suggested that the section on the Adults Scrutiny Committee could be reorganised with additional reference to the consideration of the development of key strategies;
- The outcomes of previous task and finish groups could be included within the report;
- A section on 'Referrals to the Secretary of State for Health' would be included, detailing any referrals made by the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire;
- The section on schools would be expanded upon; and
- Reference would also be made to the wide range of speakers who had attended meetings of scrutiny committees.

In closing, it was noted that the approved Annual Report would be published on the Council's Website.

RESOLVED

That the Team Leader (Scrutiny and Member Support) be requested to take into consideration the above suggestions prior to submitting the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2013/2014 to the Annual General Meeting of the Council on 16 May 2014.

52 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report from the Team Leader (Scrutiny and Member Support), which provided the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee with an opportunity to consider its work programme and the work programmes of the Council's other Scrutiny Committees. Copies of the individual work programmes were appended to the report and the following updates were received:-

i) Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

No alterations were made to the work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Members were reminded that the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police would be attending the Committee's meeting on 30 October 2014.

The Committee was advised that the Chief Information and Commissioning Officer would be attending a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the Council's Commissioning Approach. Further to this, there was a general discussion about commissioning of contracts, in particular around accountability. Members were assured that the performance monitoring of the transitional period for back office services would be undertaken by the Value for Money Scrutiny Committee. The seventeen commissioning strategies were also discussed, where Members were advised that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee would be required to consider where each one would be best scrutinised.

A discussion took place regarding the Review of the Council's Constitution, when it was suggested that an additional meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee may be required in August 2014. This would provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider the amendments prior to them being submitted to the meeting of County Council on 26 September 2014, for approval. Alternatively, it was suggested that the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 24 July 2014 was extended to an all-day meeting.

ii) Adults Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman advised that there were no amendments to the Committee's work programme.

However, the Chairman wished to highlight that on the Committee's agenda for 2 May 2014, the item on 'Healthwatch Lincolnshire Adult Care Involvement', would provide the Committee with an understanding of the developing role of Lincolnshire Healthwatch in relation to Adult Care.

Also, the Committee was scheduled to receive a presentation from the Business Manager of the Lincolnshire Carers and Young Carers Partnership at its meeting scheduled for 4 June 2014. It was noted that support for carers was one of the

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Council's seventeen commissioning strategies and one of the four which falls within the remit of the Adults Scrutiny Committee.

iii) Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

The Vice-Chairman advised Members that there were no amendments to the Committee's work programme.

Members were advised that the Frontline Social Workers and Safeguarding Task and Finish Group was nearing the end of the Review. It was next scheduled to meet on 28 April 2014 and would be speaking to the University of Lincoln regarding its social care degrees and training, and then to the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board's Independent Chair, Business Manager and Police Protection Representative to discuss joint agency working and safeguarding training.

A question was raised in relation to the Chad Varah Primary School in Lincoln in relation to its performance data, where it was suggested that this issue would be raised with the relevant officers at the Committee's next scheduled Agenda Setting Meeting.

iv) Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman advised Members that there were no amendments to the Committee's work programme. However, it was noted that there was still no firm indication from the Government when the outcome of the Consultation on Medical Examiners was to be published so it may, therefore, be necessary for this item to be deferred from the Committee's agenda for its meeting scheduled to be held on 2 July 2014.

v) Economic Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman advised Members that there was one amendment to the Committee's work programme. It was noted that the report on 'Capital Projects Programme' had been deferred from 29 April 2014 to 10 June 2014.

Members were also advised that the Review on the Impact of Transportation on Maximising Economic Growth was progressing well and was in the final stages. The Task and Finish Group would hold its next meeting on 28 April 2014 to speak to the relevant Portfolio Holders about the findings from the review and potential recommendations, and would then consider an initial draft of the final report from the review.

In response to a question, Members were advised that the County Council was currently working alongside the City of Lincoln Council in relation to park and ride in Lincoln.

Members were advised that the Events Programme for the Commemoration of the 800th Anniversary of the Sealing of the Magna Carta would be shared with all Councillors in due course.

vi) Environmental Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny Officer advised Members that the only changes to the work programme were that the item on 'Partnership Funding Outcomes' which was due to be considered by the Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee on 1 May 2014, had now been deferred until a later meeting as discussions with Government had not yet been completed. An additional item would now be considered at the meeting on 1 May 2014 on the 'Lincshore and Saltfleet to Gibraltar Point Coastal Management Review'.

It was also noted that the Textiles Recycling Working Group would be undertaking a visit to Kettering Textile Plant on 2 May 2014, following which proposals on a way forward would be considered by the Committee.

In response to a question, Members were advised that an item on the Minerals and Waste Plan, which incorporated 'fracking' was awaiting inclusion on the Committee's work programme. Further to this, Members had a detailed discussion on 'fracking', in particular the Councillor Development Event which was held on 4 April 2014. It was queried whether an additional event could be held outlining the alternatives to fracking. It was suggested that this should be discussed at the next scheduled meeting of the Councillor Development Group.

vii) Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire

The Vice-Chairman highlighted the following items: -

21 May 2014

It was likely that the item on 'NHS England Local Area Team – Introductory Presentation' would be deferred, to enable the Committee to give full consideration to the other items on the work programme for that date.

25 June 2014

It was noted that the items listed for the meeting scheduled for 25 June 2014 may also be deferred, as the Committee may need to insert an item onto the work programme on the 'Lincolnshire Health and Care Programme'.

viii) Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman advised Members that there were no amendments to the Committee's work programme.

However, it was noted that the Speed Management in Lincolnshire review was progressing well. An additional Focus Group had now been held in Lincoln and the responses to the Review's survey had now reached 600. The Task and Finish Group would next be meeting on 28 April 2014, when it would be looking in greater detail at 20mph limits and School Safety Zones. The outcome of the recent trial at Ancaster of a Community Speed Watch initiative would be considered at its meeting on 15 May

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2014. The Task and Finish Group's final report would be considered by the Committee at its meeting on 9 June 2014.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that the County Council had recently leased a new pothole repair vehicle. This vehicle would provide a first fix solution to potholes.

It was agreed that concerns in relation to the complaints process for reporting potholes would be raised with the relevant officers.

ix) Value for Money Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman advised Members that the Committee had met on 22 April 2014 and had considered reports on 'Information Management and Technology', the 'People Strategy' and 'Paperless Working'. The report on paperless working had come out of a working group drawn from members of the Committee to consider the benefits of Councillors working without paper in future. The Committee had agreed to trial paperless working at its meeting scheduled to be held on 24 June 2014. The results of this trial would be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its next meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That the work programmes for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Council's other Scrutiny Committees (Appendices A and B) be approved, subject to the inclusion of any amendments identified in (vi) above.
2. That the working Group Activity, as set out in Appendix C, be noted.
3. That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions from 1 May 2014, as set out in Appendix D, be noted.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am.