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GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (REVIEWS)

TO FOLLOW

DATE: WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2009
TIME: 10.00 AM
**PLACE: COUNCIL HOUSE, PLYMOUTH (NEXT TO THE CIVIC
CENTRE)**

Committee Members–
Councillor Coker, Chair
Councillors Ball, Martin Leaves and Reynolds

Substitutes–:
Any Member other than a Member of the Cabinet may act as a substitute member provided that they do not have a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter under review.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

Members and Officers are requested to sign the attendance list at the meeting.

**BARRY KEEL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
(REVIEWS)**

4.5. Complaints/Feedback Received

(Pages 1 - 4)

Name	Response
<p>Inspector Pete Willingham, South Sector Neighbourhood Team</p>	<p>I am the Inspector who has responsibility for Policing Plymouth City Centre. I have for some time been engaged with the Council over the review of a Bye-Law, specifically Councillor Bill Stevens. I would wish to make the following observations:-</p> <p>The Police do not receive many complaints from the public in relation to skateboarding in front of the Civic Centre. In fact we have received only one complaint in the past 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skateboarding has not been identified as a 'Partners and Communities Together' priority through community engagement. • I have witnessed members of the public raising concerns reference Skateboarding at Area Committee meetings. However, this is usually in response to the issue being on the agenda, rather than them bringing it as an issue which concerns them. • I acknowledge the fact that many young people do use the area outside of the Civic Centre to Skateboard and Cycle. This activity can lead to damaged street furniture and may be construed as dangerous to pedestrians. • The Police would support the renewal of a workable Bye-Law, but only as part of an inclusive problem solving process. Any response should not be purely enforcement based, but should include alternative venues and engineering/ designing out the problem. • I would wish to seek clarity as to the aims of prosecution and which authority would be responsible for enforcement.

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GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
REVIEW OF SKATEBOARDING BYE-LAW

***Comments from Members of Youth Parliament and
The Plymouth Youth Cabinet.***

The views stated below are our own and those of the young people that we are elected to represent. As individuals, we all have different opinions and the statements reflect this, so they may be contradictory.

I find the skateboarders outside the Civic Centre to be intimidating and rude and I hate walking through them.

The other day one of them almost knocked over my 5 year old niece and wasn't bothered that he had scared her.

It's irritating that they think civic is theirs and they are a danger risk to us and themselves.

It's prohibited outside the civic anyway and they cause a general nuisance.

Saturday's are 'skater days' and it shouldn't be that way.

We feel that the prohibition signs are there for a reason. Although there isn't really a serious risk to safety, there needs to be another well-lit area for them to skate so they can move on.

They need somewhere with good lighting and a flat open space.

Although some may be a nuisance, most don't want to cause a problem.

You don't see people playing football and rugby in the city centre so why should they take part in their 'sport'!

There is nowhere else for skaters to go.

The signs aren't effective and something needs to be done.

Our concern is that there is nowhere else to skate. They do need somewhere like a temporary skate park during production of the life centre. There should be easy access as well, near town.

They will be annoyed if things are changed so there should be communication to see them through the changes. Don't just change the law and start arresting them. This will cause damage instead of building relationships with them.

They need more space and it should be somewhere better lit

They are skating right by a road and also on an area well used by the public. They're an obstruction and they are intimidating.

There should be punishment for people that do cause harm

When they are not harming anyone, then it's okay.

The main implication is that there is not anywhere else to go. Some just genuinely want somewhere to skate and are quite nice.

Where would the hypothetical 'new skate park' be and how much would it cost?

It's a useless space outside the civic anyway.

People that BMX / roller blade and take part in ball games would have to be banned too.