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Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Monday 19 July 2010

PRESENT:

Councillor Ball, in the Chair.

Councillor McDonald, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Beer, Delbridge, Martin Leaves, Murphy, Mrs Nicholson and Smith.

Co-opted Representative: Mr C Singh.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs Bragg and Vincent.

Also in attendance: James Coulton (Assistant Director for Culture, Sport and Leisure), Tony Hopwood (Programmes Director), Phil Lewis (EC Harris) and Chris Randall (Client Finance Manager – Capital and Major Projects).

The meeting started at 4.00 pm and finished at 6.00 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

12. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by Members in accordance with the code of conduct.

13. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2010 are confirmed as a correct record.

14. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

15. **TRACKING RESOLUTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The panel received for its information a copy of its tracking resolutions schedule.

Agreed that the report is noted.

16. **APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES**

The panel considered the appointment of co-opted representatives.

Agreed that Mr C Singh is confirmed as a co-opted representative.

Recommended to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board that Dr Anita Jellings is co-opted to the Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

17. **PLYMOUTH LIFE CENTRE AND RELATED PROJECTS UPDATE**

The Director for Community Services submitted an update report on the Plymouth Life Centre and the leisure related projects programme. The update highlighted the following main areas –

- (a) programme governance;
- (b) programme work stream overview –
 - Plymouth Life Centre – progress
 - leisure management contract
 - ice and associated facilities
- (c) Project Manager's report.

The following responses were provided to questions raised by Members –

- (d) it was too early to assess the impact of the withdrawal of the free swimming funding; work was being undertaken to examine –
 - alternative funding streams
 - additional borrowing
 - additional capital receipts
 - savings from the scheme
- (e) it was hoped that the withdrawal of the free swimming initiative would not discourage visitors;
- (f) the council would be able to reclaim the VAT on the build of the scheme through HM Custom and Excise;
- (g) agreement had been reached for the management of Brickfields to be included within the leisure management contract;
- (h) the university would not have exclusive use of the pool;
- (i) the authority would be able to set the swimming pools

programme for the contractor to manage;

- (j) as part of the leisure management contract process, contractors had been asked to submit proposals on how to manage the car park, including charging rates and the use of the car park on Argyle match days.

Agreed that an update report is provided to the panel on 6 September 2010, together with proposals on the timetable for the scrutiny of the leisure management contract.

18. **PLYMPTON LIBRARY REPLACEMENT - UPDATE**

Chris Trevitt, Head of Capital and Assets submitted a briefing note on the replacement for Plympton Library, which outlined the following main points –

- (a) the temporary library on the Ridgeway opened on 2 February 2009 and had proved to be successful with an increase in visitor numbers;
- (b) plans had been developed on the former site which included a joint library and health facility, which would be jointly delivered with the PCT through the strategic partnering agreement;
- (c) in February this year, the PCT, due to funding pressures, withdrew from the scheme; the PCT looked at alternatives to meet its funding shortfall via the Plympton Hospital site but this would require approval from the Strategic Health Authority (SHA) and would take several months to obtain;
- (d) following the withdrawal of the PCT, alternative options for delivery had been investigated, which included –
 - delaying the scheme until SHA approval was received but there was no certainty that approval would be obtained and the scheme would be delayed for 12 months; this would mean that the lease on the temporary library would need to be extended at a cost of £63,000; there was provision in the existing lease to extend for a further 12 months;
 - building a stand alone library with the monies received from the loss adjuster; the size would be similar to the former library; a new planning application would need to be developed and the completion on site would not be until Spring 2011; this would require the lease to be extended for an additional three months at a cost of £15,000;

- investigating other potential sources of funding for a replacement joint facility that would be able to deliver a larger library than was currently feasible with the insurance monies;
- (e) the current situation was –
- a combination of the second and fourth options were being pursued at present;
 - ▶ a planning application for a 300m² library had been developed;
 - ▶ alternative funding sources had been investigated;
 - ▶ a further 12 month extension to the temporary library lease was being negotiated with three monthly break options which would allow greater flexibility options.

Whilst it was acknowledged that the withdrawal of funding for this project by the PCT was disappointing, it had been difficult to predict such a situation arising.

19. **LOCALITY WORKING: EVALUATION CRITERIA** (Pages 1 - 2)

Nick McMahon (Localities Project Co-ordinator) submitted a report on the evaluation criteria for locality working. A review of locality working formed part of the panel's work programme for 2010/11 and the panel were requested to consider the proposed evaluation criteria.

Members of the panel put forward questions to which the following responses were provided –

- (a) all neighbourhood managers had been appointed and were in post;
- (b) there would be no dedicated resource to take minutes at the meetings; a protocol and a standard format for the minutes would be circulated to the neighbourhoods; the minutes of the meetings would be published on the website;
- (c) the concept of 'lead' councillors for each locality would not be implemented; all councillors would be able to attend the meetings;
- (d) further work would be undertaken to enhance the criterion for the Health Authority thus ensuring its involvement could be measured.

Agreed that the criteria are amended as per the attached table at appendix 1 to these minutes.

20. **WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11**

The panel considered its work programme for 2010/11.

A query was raised relating to the inclusion of the Carbon Reduction Commitment on the panel's work programme.

Agreed that the Overview and Scrutiny Panels with responsibility for Carbon Reduction Commitment are confirmed.

21. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

Agreed that under Section 100(A) (2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involve the likely disclosure of confidential/exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the (Local Government Access to Information) Act 1985, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

22. **PLYMOUTH LIFE CENTRE AND RELATED PROJECTS UPDATE**

The Director for Community Services provided an update report on the Plymouth Life Centre and related projects.

Officers responded to questions raised by panel members.

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LOCALITY WORKING: EVALUATION CRITERIA

Agreed by Plymouth City Council Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel, 19 July 2010

Measure	Data source	Target	Data provider(s)
1. Neighbourhood Liaison Officers (NLO) and Locality Managers (LM) appointed	List	At least 90% of NLOs and 100% of LMs by Aug 2010	Locality Coordinator
2. Locality Teams established	List of team members	6 by July 2010	Locality Coordinator
3. Community priorities identified via Neighbourhood Meetings process	List priorities/frequency	At least 6 priorities identified by every Neighbourhood by March 2011	Neighbourhood Liaison Officers
4. Priorities followed up & feedback given	Written evidence against priorities list	At least 75% of priorities followed up and feedback given by March 2011	Neighbourhood Liaison Officers and Locality Managers
5. Training and awareness raising	List of training / events Copy of councillor guidance	At least 8 staff training sessions held by July 2010 Awareness raising sessions held across at least 3 organisations by Aug 2010 Councillor guidance issued by Aug 2010	Locality Coordinator and Assistant Director for Safer Communities
6. Satisfaction of members of the public with Localities working as way of getting issues raised and responded to.	Satisfaction survey amongst members of public engaged with Localities process	At least 60% satisfied in early 2011	Locality Coordinator and Policy & Performance Officer responsible for consultation
7. Satisfaction of PCC staff that Localities working is making a positive difference	Satisfaction survey amongst NLOs, Locality Managers and other Locality Team members of PCC staff engaged with Localities process	At least 60% satisfied in early 2011	Locality Coordinator and Policy & Performance Officer responsible for consultation. Survey recipients
8. Satisfaction of Police with Localities working is making a positive difference	Satisfaction survey amongst Neighbourhood Police engaged with Localities process	At least 60% satisfied in early 2011	Locality Coordinator and Policy & Performance Officer responsible for consultation. Survey recipients

Measure	Data source	Target	Data provider(s)
9. Publicity methods used for advertising Neighbourhood meetings	List of meetings & methods	At least 75% of Neighbourhoods have at least 3 methods by December 2010	Neighbourhood Liaison Officers & Police
10. LSP overview of progress	Reports to LSP executive on progress including community priorities identified and being dealt with	At least 2 reports by March 2011	Locality Coordinator and Assistant Director Safer Communities
11. Data available to Neighbourhoods	Neighbourhood profiles produced and published	100% of Neighbourhoods have profile	Plymouth Analysts Network
12. Public attendance at Neighbourhood meetings	Record of numbers attending each meeting	For information only - no target	Neighbourhood Liaison Officers and Police

20/07/10