

Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 12 September 2012

PRESENT:

Councillor Tuffin, in the Chair.

Councillors Ball, Casey, Philippa Davey, Jordan and Jarvis.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Haydon, Martin Leaves and Ricketts.

Also in attendance: Darin Halifax (Lead Officer), Katey Johns (Democratic Support Officer), Sarah Hopkins (Community Safety Partnership Manager), Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Cooperatives and Community Development).

The meeting started at 4 pm and finished at 4.25 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.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the code of conduct, the following declaration of interest was made –

Name	Subject	Reason	Interest
Councillor Jordan	Library Modernisation PID (Revised)	Director of Trading Route (Café operating in Devonport Library)	Personal

21. MINUTES

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2012.

22. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

23. COMMUNITY RIGHT TO CHALLENGE

The Chair advised members that this items was withdrawn having been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 5 September 2012.

24. UPDATE ON POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

The panel received an update in respect of Police and Crime Panel matters as presented by Councillor Penberthy, the Cabinet Member for Cooperatives and

Community Development, and Sarah Hopkins, Community Safety Partnership Manager. Members were advised that –

- (a) following a period of protracted negotiations, agreement on panel composition had finally been reached between all 13 local authorities within the force area at a meeting of the Shadow Police and Crime Panel on 25 July 2012;
- (b) Plymouth's offer to be Host Authority had also been agreed and submission of the formal return to the Home Office had been made on 26 July 2012;
- (c) whilst agreement had also been reached in respect of the draft constitution for the Police and Crime Panel this could not be finalised until further guidance on the regulations had been received from the Home Office;
- (d) an exercise to recruit a number of independent members to the panel was currently under way with adverts having been placed in various forms of communications with our partners, such as the police, health, fire and the guild and voluntary sector and in the press. There had been numerous expressions of interest received so far and the closing date for receipt of applications was Friday 14 September 2012;
- (e) the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel was scheduled to take place on 22 October 2012.

At the request of the Chair, the Cabinet Member agreed to invite the Police to provide an update on the budget following the series of cuts announced earlier in the year. This information to be presented in the form of an all-member briefing.

The panel and Cabinet Member offered a vote of thanks to all the officers involved in progressing development of the Police and Crime Panel given the challenges they had encountered, but particularly Sarah Hopkins and Peter Aley.

25. **TRACKING RESOLUTIONS**

In noting the tracking resolutions schedule, Members were advised that –

- Councillor Ricketts had subsequently withdrawn from membership of the Social Fund Replacement Task and Finish Group due to a conflict of interests;
- an informal scoping meeting in respect of the Social Fund Replacement Task and Finish Group would take place upon the conclusion of this meeting.

Consideration was given to composition of the task and finish group in light of Councillor Ricketts withdrawal and it was agreed that the Democratic Support Officer would e-mail members of the Conservative Group with a view to finding a replacement. Should a replacement not be identified, the task and finish group would proceed with its remaining membership.

26. **LIBRARY MODERNISATION PID (REVISED)**

The panel's Lead Officer reported on the minor changes that had been made to the PID following its consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. Members were advised that the PID had been amended to include an emphasis on accessibility for people who did not have a local library and how to attract people who did not currently use the service.

(Councillor Jordan declared a personal interest in respect of the above item).

27. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The panel noted its work programme for 2012/13.

28. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.