

Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 4 July 2012

PRESENT:

Councillor Nicholson, in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Nelder, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Damarell, Darcy, Fox, Jordan, Michael Leaves, John Smith, Wheeler and Wigans.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Martin Leaves.

Also in attendance: Councillor Mark Coker (Cabinet Member for Transport), Councillor Tudor Evans (Leader), Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) and Councillor Brian Vincent (Cabinet Member for Environment). Gill Peele (Business for Development), Gemma Pearce (Team Leader, Democratic Support)

The meeting started at 3 pm and finished at 4.45 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.

1. TO NOTE THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The panel noted the appointment of Councillor Nicholson as Chair and Councillor Mrs Nelder as Vice Chair for the municipal year 2012-2013.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the code of conduct, the following declarations of interest were made –

Name	Minute	Reason	Interest
Councillor Mike Leaves	7	Private Sector Landlord	Personal
Councillor J Smith	7	Private Sector Landlord	Personal
Councillor Wigans	7	Private Sector Landlord	Personal

3. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES

Agreed to consider the appointment of co-opted representatives on a Task and Finish Group by Task and Finish Group basis.

4. MINUTES

Agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2012.

5. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair welcomed the new panel members to the panel.

6. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Panel noted their terms of reference.

7. **OVERVIEW OF PRIORITIES OF SERVICES FOR GROWTH AND PROSPERITY**

The Leader, Cabinet Member for Finance, Cabinet Member for Transport, Cabinet Member for Environment and the Director for Place attended the meeting to present an overview of the Place Directorate and of their respective portfolios and suggested potential areas in which they would like scrutiny support.

- (1) The Director for Place gave an update on his Directorate and informed the panel that –
 - (a) there would be a review of the Core Strategy. This Strategy would become the Plymouth Plan and it was hoped that the review would give the plan a 'new lease of life'. The consultation on the plan, which would start in late Summer 2013, and the review following that consultation was a priority for the Directorate;
 - (b) following a restructure, the Place Directorate had welcomed arts, culture, events and capital strategy and delivery to the Directorate;
 - (c) the Directorate was responsible for delivery of 57 of the 100 Labour manifesto commitments and delivering these commitments would be a key priority;
 - (d) ensuring sustainability and reducing carbon footprint cut across everything the Directorate undertook to do;
 - (e) the Directorate would be –
 - working to deliver the growth agenda;
 - driving forward development opportunities in the City Centre;
 - taking the Derriford growth hub forward;
 - taking the North Prospect regeneration project forward;
 - promoting economic growth and marketing the City;
 - getting people back into meaningful work;
 - working on both transport related and digital connectivity;
 - building 3500 – 4000 new homes;

- building new retail space;
 - making the most of the strong community capacity through Local Enterprise within the City
- (2) Councillor Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance gave an update on his area and advised the panel that –
- (a) his portfolio covered building new homes and that there was a big need for new homes in the City that was not currently being met. There were plans to intervene and ensure that more of the types of properties people need were built;
 - (b) there were plans to build up a team of developers, residential landlords, contractors etc. to work together to see the right mix of buildings come into the City and to make the best use of the sites and opportunities already available;
 - (c) there were plans to look into all of the developments previously agreed by the Council and which had not yet started as this lack of development was holding back growth in the City;
 - (d) a strategic review of assets across the City would be undertaken, this review would include car parks.
- (3) Councillor Coker, Cabinet Member for Transport gave an update on his area and advised the panel that scrutiny input would be welcomed on the following areas –
- (a) subsidised bus routes and cross-ticketing;
 - (b) maintenance of cycle tracks;
 - (c) on-street parking review.
- (4) Councillor Coker undertook to return to the panel and update members on the plans for the car parks over the next 12 months.
- (5) Councillor Evans, Leader of the Council, advised Members that he considered it vital for Members to make better use of the Plymouth MPs and their time in Parliament in terms of pushing the Plymouth Agenda;
- (6) Councillor Vincent, Cabinet Member for Environment, gave an update on his area and advised the panel that –
- (a) managing the City's carbon footprint would be a priority;
 - (b) work would be undertaken on the Derriford and Seaton Projects;

- (c) exciting projects were on the horizon for Central Park.

Panel Members questioned The Leader on the airport site and asked what plans were in place to protect it. Members were advised that the Plymouth Plan was sufficient to protect the site.

The Panel thanked Director, Leader and the Cabinet Members for their attendance and requested that they attend the panel at a future meetings.

8. **DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13**

Following the discussion with the Director and Portfolio Holders, the Panel considered their work programme for 2012 – 2013.

Agreed to add the following items to the work programme –

- (1) Housing Delivery Plan;
- (2) On Street Trading;
- (3) Events and Visitors Plan;
- (4) Subsidised bus routes;
- (5) Commercial Assets Strategy;
- (6) Highways Maintenance (inc, cycle tracks and Transport and Highways Partnerships);

9. **UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT POLICY CHANGES**

There were no updates on Government Policy Changes.

10. **FUTURE DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS**

The panel noted the dates of its future meetings as follows –

- Wednesday 4 July 2012
- Wednesday 1 August 2012
- Wednesday 19 September 2012
- Wednesday 21 November 2012
- Wednesday 1 May 2013

All meetings to commence at 3 pm.

The panel noted that one date was missing and asked that the Team Leader (Democratic Support) look into the situation.

11. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.