

Cabinet

Tuesday 13 April 2010

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Pengelly, in the Chair.
Councillor Fry, Vice Chair.
Councillors Bowyer, Jordan, Michael Leaves, Monahan, Ricketts and Wigans.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Brookshaw and Dr. Salter

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.45 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Cabinet 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.

144. **VOTE OF THANKS**

The Leader thanked Cabinet Members, the Chief Executive and all the officers for their hard work during the year.

She also referred to the improved scrutiny function and way of working, and asked Councillor James (Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board) to convey her comments to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

145. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct from Members in relation to items under consideration at this meeting.

146. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2010 were signed as a correct record.

147. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions received from the public for this meeting.

CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

148. **Municipal Journal Awards: Best Achieving Council of the Year Award**

Cabinet was advised that Plymouth City Council was one of six finalists for the Municipal Journal's prestigious "Best Achieving Council of the Year Award". The Council would be making a presentation on 29 April 2010 and the decision would be announced in June / July.

149. **Plymouth 2010 Visitor Guide**

The Leader referred to the high quality of the newly published Plymouth 2010 Visitor Guide which had been produced by the business community.

Resolved that the thanks of the Council is extended to the business community who contributed towards the publication.

(In accordance with Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Chair brought forward the above items for urgent consideration because of the need to inform Members).

150. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD QUARTERLY SCRUTINY REPORT**

The Assistant Chief Executive submitted a written report on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Quarterly Report.

With the consent of Cabinet, Councillor James, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, addressed Members and highlighted -

- (i) the scrutiny of the budget and corporate plan as follows -
 - (a) the recommendations from the process had been referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels to monitor and a review of the recommendations would be undertaken in six month's time;
 - (b) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had concerns about deliverability of the budget and would be monitoring progress through the monitoring reports;
- (ii) the alignment of scrutiny with the local strategic partnership theme groups. Protocols for joint working had been accepted and joint meetings of the Chairs and Vice Chairs would be held quarterly with Lead Officers meeting monthly;
- (iii) that a joint workshop with Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Theme Groups and Overview and Scrutiny Panels had been held on 31 March 2010 that had -
 - been very successful with no barriers between the politicians and other sectors of the community; and
 - reviewed the priorities and had concluded that reducing inequalities should be the focus;
- (iv) that Cabinet had supported a request from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to scrutinise key policies but that, to date, no progress had been made.

The Leader commented that the scrutiny of the budget and corporate plan held in February 2010 had been very successful.

Resolved that –

- (1) the report is noted.
- (2) Cabinet Members and Directors are requested to engage with scrutiny as soon as possible after the Council's Annual General Meeting to discuss key strategies.

151. **GROWTH AGENDA: A REFORM OF GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report.

With the consent of Cabinet, Councillor Viney, Chair of the Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel, presented the Panel's recommendations, which had subsequently been approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

The officer's report indicated that the panel's recommendations could be supported as adding value to the proposals. Subject to the work programming decisions of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and approval by Cabinet, a report would be taken to a meeting of the Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel within the next six months, setting out desired outcomes, success criteria and current performance in relation to these criteria.

The Leader thanked Councillors James and Viney for attending Cabinet for this and the previous item.

Resolved that –

- (1) approval in principle is given to the overall structure of governance arrangements as set out in the report, for dialogue and agreement with sub regional partners;
- (2) approval be given to the appointment of the Council's portfolio holders with a remit for economic development, strategic housing and planning and transport as the City Council's representatives on the Portfolio Holders Board;
- (3) the appointment of Senior Members from Cornwall Council, Devon County Council, South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council are invited to represent economic development, strategic housing and planning and transport on behalf of their councils;
- (4) the arrangements set out in the report are endorsed regarding Member involvement in the governance of the growth agenda;
- (5) Officers are instructed to develop a Communication Plan relating to the work of the Plymouth Growth Board and the Programme Boards;
- (6) the proposed Programme Boards as setting out the higher level priorities in support of delivery of the growth and regeneration agenda for Plymouth and its wider sub region are noted, and the Chairs of these Boards are instructed to define and communicate their proposed remit through the Communication Plan;
- (7) Cabinet closely monitors the implementation of the governance arrangements, including making adjustments as necessary, and a full review is undertaken after two years of their operation;
- (8) the recommendations of the Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel are agreed as set out in Section 8 of the report.

152. **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: ADOPTION OF CITY CENTRE AND UNIVERSITY AREA ACTION PLAN**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report together with the City Centre and University Area Action Plan for formal adoption.

Cabinet welcomed Richard Grant to the meeting, following his recent illness.

Resolved that –

- (1) the City Council is Recommended to formally adopt the City Centre and University Area Action Plan;
- (2) Officers are instructed to implement, as soon as practicable, all the statutory procedures associated with the adoption process.

153. **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: ADOPTION OF DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report together with the draft Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document.

Resolved that –

- (1) the City Council is Recommended to formally adopt the Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document;
- (2) the Assistant Director of Development (Planning Services) is delegated authority to approve the final publication version of the Supplementary Planning Document;
- (3) Officers are instructed to implement, as soon as practicable, all the statutory procedures associated with the adoption process of the Supplementary Planning Document;
- (4) Officers are instructed to review the Supplementary Planning Document after one year of its operation in a planning application context, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development.

154. **EXTENSION OF THE DESIGNATION OF EFFORD MARSH LOCAL NATURE RESERVES**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report.

Resolved that approval is given to the extension of Efford Marsh Local Nature Reserve, and the Head of Legal Services is instructed to draw up and sign the legal documents that complete the formal designation.

155. **EXTENSION OF THE DESIGNATION OF FORDER VALLEY LOCAL NATURE RESERVES**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report.

Resolved that approval is given to the extension of Forder Valley Local Nature Reserve, and the Head of Legal Services is instructed to draw up and sign the legal documents that complete the formal designation.

156. **PLYMOUTH LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a written report together with the proposed Plymouth Local Investment Plan.

Resolved that –

- (1) Cabinet confirms that the Investment Plan approach is a sensible and effective way of marshalling resources to deliver the city's long term development needs;
- (2) approval is given to the first Plymouth Local Investment Plan and the investment priorities it contains (see Annex 1 to the written report);
- (3) in principle approval is given to move forward with the preparation of a Local Investment Agreement, with delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Strategic Housing and

- Economic Development, to sign an agreement once the content has been agreed; and
- (4) approval is given to the approach to the preparation of Plymouth Local Investment Plan 2, as set out in the written report.

157. **PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL AQUATICS STRATEGY**

The Director for Community Services submitted a written report together with the draft Plymouth City Council Aquatics Strategy.

The Leader thanked Councillor Jordan and James Coulton for their work leading to the production of this strategy.

Resolved that the recommendations set out in the Aquatics Strategy are noted and the Plymouth Aquatics Strategy is adopted as the framework for the development of future aquatics programmes across the city.

158. **THANKS TO THE LEADER**

Cabinet Members thanked the Leader for her leadership, her commitment to the City Council and for the successes that she had achieved for the City. The Chief Executive also added his thanks to the Leader.

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