

Place and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 5 October 2016

PRESENT:

Councillor Bowie, in the Chair.

Councillor Fry, Vice Chair.

Councillors Carson, Churchill, Sam Davey, Fletcher, Martin Leaves, Mavin, Morris, Penberthy and Storer.

Apology for absence: Councillor Ball.

Also in attendance: Councillor Bowyer (Leader), Paul Brookes (Executive Director History Centre), Mar Brunson (Head of Strategic Development Projects), Paul Cook (Head of Financial Planning and Reporting), (Councillor Darcy (Cabinet Member for Finance), David Draffan (Assistant Director for Economic Development), Ross Jago (Lead Officer), Councillor Jordan (Cabinet Member for Culture), Lou Hayward (Assistant Director for Street Services), Councillor Michael Leaves (Cabinet Member for Strategic Streetscene/Environment), Gareth Simmons (Strategic Project Director) and Helen Wright (Democratic Adviser).

The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 7.00 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Panel 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.

Please Note: This meeting was webcast and can be viewed at -

<http://council.webcast.vualto.com/plymouth-city-council/home/?EventId=16914>

9. **Appointment of Vice Chair**

The committee agreed to appoint Councillor Fry as Vice Chair for this particular meeting.

10. **Declarations of Interest**

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

11. **Minutes**

The committee agreed that the minutes of the following minutes are approved as a correct record –

- Place and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee 27 July 2016

- Co-operative Scrutiny Board 17 February 2016
9 March 2016
- Working Plymouth Panel 16 March 2016

12. **Chair's Urgent Business**

The Chair advised that during the winter months the meeting time of the committee would be brought forward to commence at 3pm and not 5pm.

13. **Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report 2016/17**

Councillor Ian Bowyer (Leader), Councillor Darcy (Cabinet Member for Finance) and Paul Cook (Head of Financial Planning and Reporting) presented the Capital and Revenue Monitoring report 2016/17 (as attached).



Qtr1CabinetReportV4.pdf

In response to key areas of questioning by councillors, it was reported that more up to date information would be provided in the future.

Ross Jago (Lead Officer) advised that the issue relating to the loss of funding to the authority when schools converted to academy status (the adverse impact could be in the region of £400,000) would be raised with the Chair of the Wellbeing Committee.

The committee noted the report.

The committee agreed to receive financial monitoring information on a more regular basis.

(Please note: this item was webcast)

14. **History Centre**

Councillor Jordan (Cabinet Member for Culture), David Draffan (Assistant Director for Economic Development), Gareth Simmons (Strategic Project Director) and Paul Brookes (Executive Director History Centre) presented this report (as attached).



20160916 Scrunity Report V0 03.pdf

In response to questions raised by councillors, the following key points were reported –

- (a) the project was currently referred to as the History Centre, although it was not the intention to retain this name; however,

there was a need to ensure that the right name was chosen and that the public liked the name;

- (b) the cost of supplies for the project could be reported to the committee (officers to agree the best method for delivering this);
- (c) a decision from the Arts Council was imminent regarding the council's application for funding;
- (d) crowd funding would be utilised once the designs, ideas and concepts had been developed; members of the public would have the opportunity to raise money for the exhibits;
- (e) work would be undertaken to engage with the local sub-contractor to support the connection between education and the construction market regarding the skills that would be required for the delivery of this project;
- (f) discussions were being held with the preferred contractor regarding the best methods of communicating the progress of the project; proposals put forward included video screens in the hoardings, time lapse photography, filming the site with the use of drones and the website; the activity plan included hard hat visits, a viewing platform, school site visits and visits to schools by the construction team; an important part of this project was the engagement of the community.

The committee agreed to receive regular updates on the cost of supplies for this project.

The committee noted the report.

(Please note: this item was webcast)

15. **Quality Hotel Site Project Update**

Councillor Ian Bowyer (Leader), David Draffan (Assistant Director for Economic Development) and Mark Brunson (Head of Strategic Development Projects) presented the report (as attached).



Scrutiny Report Quality Site.pdf

In response to questions raised by councillors, it was reported that –

- (a) community engagement was vital in the development of this project; the preferred developer had recognised this specific need and had produced a communications plan;

- (b) it was acknowledged that Ward Councillors would welcome the opportunity to work closely with officers and the developers on this project.

The committee noted the report.

(Please note: this item was webcast)

16. **Plan for Modernising Waste and Street Services**

Councillor Michael Leaves (Cabinet Member for Strategic Streetscene/Environment) and Lou Hayward (Assistant Director for Street Services) present this report (as attached).



Waste modernisation.pdf

In response to questions raised by councillors, the following key points were reported –

- (a) resident engagement was vital in ensuring the required behaviour change required to increase the household recycling rate across the city;
- (b) with the proposed reduction in household waste going to the incinerator, it was not envisaged that there would be any implications relating to the council's contractual commitments;
- (c) staff had been engaged at the earliest opportunity, with regard to the proposals for modernising the service; in order to achieve this there would need to be a change in culture of the workforce;
- (d) it was acknowledged that further work was required to inform residents of the reasons why their bins had not been collected;
- (e) a pilot scheme had been implemented within the Drake ward which had resulted in individual bins being replaced with commercial bins; a communications exercise had been undertaken with residents to provide them with useful information on recycling, a map of where the bins were located, etc;
- (f) the alignment and deployment of services to maximise efficiency would assist in the modernisation of the service;
- (g) the process of gathering intelligence relating to fly tipping would be streamlined by the use of smarter technology;
- (h) the council did have the powers to enforce the removal of rubbish on privately owned land;

- (i) the Plymouth Food Waste Partnership feasibility study would inform future options for food waste collection (however, food waste acted as an 'enabler' in the burning of waste at the Energy from Waste plant).

The committee agreed that -

- (1) the Cabinet Member instructs officers to produce a full business case at the earliest opportunity; it should contain –
 - (a) detailed assessments for the impact on staff, recycling and the city council's budget;
 - (b) how the preferred option reflects contributions made –
 - (i) through the detailed public responses put forward in the 'Time for Big Decisions' consultation;
 - (ii) by the Place and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
 - (iii) the feasibility study from Plymouth Food Waste Partnership;
- (2) the Cabinet Member makes provision in the forward plan immediately for decisions regarding waste, so that –
 - (a) members of the public who are subject to any changes to waste services have early notification of any changes;
 - (b) staff who may be affected have clear view of the forward direction of the service;
 - (c) an education and communication plan can be adequately prepared and delivered to mitigate any adverse impact on the people of Plymouth;
- (3) scrutiny will consider all implementation, communication and education plans in relation to the new Plan for Modernisations of Waste and Street Services.

17. **Urgent Decisions**

The Chair advised that she had signed one urgent decision regarding the award of two contracts for the period 1 September 2016 to 30 September 2017 with an option to extend for up to three years.

The committee noted the decision.

18. **Tracking Decisions**

Ross Jago (Lead Officer) advised that the tracking decisions for this committee and the Wellbeing Committee had been combined for ease of reference.

The committee noted the progress of the decisions.

19. **Work Programme 2016/17**

The committee agreed that the following items will be added to the work programme –

- Waterfront Business Improvement District; –
- Mayflower 400.