

**SCRUTINY COMMISSION  
11TH APRIL 2023**

PRESENT: The Chair (Councillor Seaton)  
The Vice Chair (Councillor Ranson)  
Councillors Hamilton and K. Harris

Councillors Morgan (Leader of the Council) and  
Harper-Davies (Lead Member for Community  
Support)

Head of Contracts, Leisure, Waste and  
Environment  
Head of Planning and Growth  
Regeneration and Economic Development Officer  
Democratic Services Officer (SW)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Brookes, Parton and Popley

The Chair stated that the meeting would be recorded and the sound recording subsequently made available via the Council's website. She also advised that, under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting, and the use of any such images or sound recordings was not under the Council's control.

104. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 7th March 2023 were approved.

105. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

No disclosures were made.

106. DECLARATIONS OF THE PARTY WHIP

No declarations were made.

107. QUESTIONS UNDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES 11.16

No questions were submitted.

108. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE

A report of the Head of Governance and Human Resources to consider the implementation of the decisions taken by the Cabinet following its consideration of the report of the Digital Transformation Scrutiny Panel and what, if any, further action may be required, was submitted (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

It was anticipated that all members (with the exception of members of the Executive) would be invited to be involved in the testing and development of the new website management system.

## **RESOLVED**

1. That the information was noted by the Scrutiny Commission.
2. That the Scrutiny Commission was satisfied with the progression of the actions associated with the Cabinet resolutions and that no further monitoring was required.

### Reasons

1&2 To enable the Commission to be satisfied that decisions taken following scrutiny recommendations are being implemented satisfactorily, take or recommend any further action that is necessary and ensure the effectiveness of the scrutiny function.

109. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF ANY SPECIFIC FINANCIAL MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CABINET

There were no items of this nature on the Cabinet agenda for the Commission to consider.

110. CABINET ITEMS FOR PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

111. EXEMPT - SHEPSHED PUBLIC REALM PROJECT: MARKET PLACE

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Planning and Growth was considered under item 14.

112. EXEMPT - EXTENSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CONTRACT

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Contracts (Leisure, Waste and Environment) was considered under item 15 on the agenda.

113. EXEMPT - EXTENSION OF MANAGEMENT OF OPEN SPACES CONTRACT

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Contracts (Leisure, Waste and Environment) was considered under item 16 on the agenda.

114. SCRUTINY COMMISSION PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY - CABINET RESPONSE

A report of the Cabinet was considered setting out its responses to the recommendations of the Commission on pre-decision scrutiny items (item 9 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet's responses to the Commission's recommendations be noted.

Reason

The Commission was satisfied that it added value where appropriate and welcomed the Cabinet's consideration of the Commission's views and recommendations as part of its decision making process.

115. PROGRESS WITH PANEL WORK

A report of the Head of Governance and Human Resources to consider updates on the work of scrutiny panels, was submitted (item 10 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

**RESOLVED** that the Scrutiny Commission note the progression of scrutiny panels.

Reason

To ensure timely and effective scrutiny of the matter and subject.

116. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

A report of the Head of Governance and Human Resources to enable the Commission to review and agree the Scrutiny Work Programme. This includes reviewing the changes made by the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee and adding items to their work programme was submitted (item 11 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

**RESOLVED** that the Scrutiny Commission reviewed the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Work Programme and did not make any amendments.

Reason

To ensure timely and effective scrutiny of the matter/subject.

117. SCRUTINY COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME

A report of the Head of Governance and Human Resources was considered, to enable the Commission to consider its work programme and forthcoming Key Decisions and decisions to be taken in private by the Cabinet in order to schedule items for pre-decision scrutiny, was submitted (item 12 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Lead Officer assisted with the consideration of this item. It was highlighted that there would be no further meetings of the Scrutiny Commission until 3rd July 2023, and therefore there was a requirement to move items scheduled for June 2023. The Commission made the following changes to their work programme;

- i. Draft Annual Scrutiny Report (annual item) – Move to 7th August 2023

- ii. Update on Void Property Information – Move to 7th August 2023
- iii. Cost of Living Plan Update – Move to 3rd July 2023

## **RESOLVED**

1. That forthcoming Executive Key Decisions or decisions to be taken in private by the Executive, set out in Appendix 2 to the report, and scheduled scrutiny of those matters, be noted.
2. That the Commission's current work programme be noted.
3. That the following changes be made to the Scrutiny Commission's work programme:
  - Draft Annual Scrutiny Report (annual item) – Move to 7th August 2023
  - Update on Void Property Information – Move to 7th August 2023
  - Cost of Living Plan Update – Move to 3rd July 2023

## Reasons

1-3 To ensure effective and timely scrutiny, either to provide Cabinet with advice prior to it taking a decision or to ensure that the Council and external public service providers and partners were operating effectively for the benefit of the Borough.

2. To ensure effective and timely scrutiny.

## 118. EXEMPT INFORMATION

**RESOLVED** that members of the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest of disclosing the information.

## 119. SHEPSHED PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: MARKET PLACE

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Planning and Growth was considered for pre-decision scrutiny (exempt item 8a on the agenda filed with these minutes).

A summary of the Commission's discussion on this matter is provided in the exempt minute (Scrutiny Commission Minute 111E. 2022/23).

## 120. EXTENSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CONTRACT

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Contracts (Leisure, Waste and Environment) was considered for pre-decision scrutiny (exempt item 8b on the agenda filed with these minutes).

A summary of the Commission's discussion on this matter is provided in the exempt minute (Scrutiny Commission Minute 112E. 2022/23).

121. EXTENSION OF THE MANAGEMENT OF OPEN SPACES CONTRACT

An exempt Cabinet report of the Head of Contracts (Leisure, Waste and Environment) was considered for pre-decision scrutiny (exempt item 8c on the agenda filed with these minutes).

A summary of the Commission's discussion on this matter is provided in the exempt minute (Scrutiny Commission Minute 113E. 2022/23).

NOTES:

1. No reference may be made to these minutes at the next available meeting of the Council unless notice to that effect is given to the Democratic Services Manager by five members of the Council by noon on the fifth working day following publication of these minutes.
2. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Commission.
3. The following Lead Members and Officers attended the meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams; The Leader of the Council, the Lead Member for Community Support and the Performance, Policy and Development Manager. All other attendees were present in person.