

Minutes of the **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover
on Monday 26 June 2017 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor C Lynn (Chairman)	(P)	Councillor I Jeffrey (Vice Chairman)	(P)
Councillor D Baverstock	(P)	Councillor P Hurst	(P)
Councillor P Boulton	(P)	Councillor J Lovell	(P)
Councillor J Cockaday	(P)	Councillor P Mutton	(P)
Councillor C Dowden	(-)	Councillor J Neal	(P)
Councillor B Few Brown	(-)	Councillor B Page	(P)
Councillor A Finlay	(A)	Councillor T Preston	(P)
Councillor K Hamilton	(P)	Councillor I Richards	(P)
Councillor I Hibberd	(P)	Councillor C Thom	(P)

Also in attendance:

Councillor N Adams-King
Councillor P Giddings
Councillor S Hawke
Councillor G Stallard

74

Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

75

Away Day

The Chairman presented the draft agenda for the OSCOM Away Day and invited Members to advise him of any additional items they may wish to include on the agenda. He also advised Members that the Leader would give a short presentation at the start of the day.

The Vice Chairman commented on the new OSCOM handbook which had been amended with guidance from cross examination of other authorities' processes.

A request was made for any handouts from the Away Day to be circulated to those Members who were unable to attend.

76

Communication and Procurement Scoping

The Committee was requested to consider the draft scoping template for a review of communication in the context of procurement exercises within Test Valley Task and Finish Panel and comment thereon.

The Chairman congratulated the Lead Member on his work and read out some complimentary words from the Leader.

The Lead Member advised the Committee that he would include Councillor Ward as well as Councillor North as Portfolio Holders.

It was suggested that the proposed scope be extended to include major projects and the role of the contractor in respect of communication.

It was also suggested that investigations should be undertaken in consultation with the tenderers to determine the level of public consultation that took place during the procurement process.

Resolved:

That the PR and News Release within Test Valley scoping template be approved with the addition of the following to the scope:

- i) The topic for review be amended to include major projects.**
- ii) The role of contractors in communication be added to the key areas of focus.**

77

Review of Call-in Process

On 21 June 2017 Cabinet met to consider OSCOM's recommendations on the Council's Call-in procedure rules.

The Corporate Director introduced the report and advised the Committee that Cabinet had endorsed OSCOM's recommendations with minor amendments. He also advised that Cabinet Members had welcomed the OSCOM proposals.

Resolved:

- 1. That the Chairman and/or the Vice Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee attend all Cabinet meetings and report back to the Committee as required or delegate attendance to a member of the Committee.**
- 2. That Cabinet's position outlined in paragraph 2.3 (2) of the report be noted.**
- 3. To approve the Call-in form as set out in the Annex to the report.**

Recommended to Council:

4. To amend the Call-in threshold and criteria as follows:

- **15 (a) 'Call-in' by whom**

Delete the following text:

“An individual Member may, with the support of another Member who is a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and with the agreement of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Call-in a decision of the Cabinet.”

To amend the Call-in threshold and criteria by adding in the following text underlined below:

- **15 (c) 'Call-in' Criteria**

A Cabinet decision or delegated executive decision will be called-in if the Member(s) calling it satisfies the Monitoring Officer that one of more of the following conditions apply:

- (i) the decision has been made without compliance to Standing Orders;**
- (ii) the decision is outside the Terms of Reference of ~~the Cabinet or~~ the delegated authority of the decision maker.**
- (iii) the decision is in conflict with existing policy or the Corporate Plan;**
- (iv) there is no budget, or insufficient budget provision to implement the decision.**

- **To amend the Call-in threshold and criteria as follows:**

Delete the following:

“(v) that information contained within the report, and/or considered by the Cabinet, which would have been likely to have affected the decision was incomplete or inaccurate.”

Replace with the following:

“(v) That the information contained within the report leading to the decision was incomplete or inaccurate or that the process leading to the decision did not comply with the relevant legal requirements.”

78 **Programme of Work for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

The Committee considered and updated the Work Programme as follows:

- Complaints handling moved from Briefing Notes in July to a full report in September as the Ombudsman Annual Report would not be published until August.
- PR and News Release within Test Valley and Lessons Learnt from the Leisure Contract Panel added to 25 October.

The Lead Member of the Public Involvement Panel advised the Committee that a Panel meeting was scheduled for 27 June in Romsey to discuss a scoping report which looks at Election processes.

Resolved:

That the future work programme, as amended, be approved.

(Meeting terminated at 6:25 pm)