

Minutes of the **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**  
held in The Annexe, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey  
on Wednesday 25 July 2018 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

<b>Councillor I Jeffrey (Chairman)</b>	(P)	<b>Councillor Cockaday (Vice Chairman)</b>	(P)
Councillor G Bailey	(P)	Councillor I Hibberd	(P)
Councillor D Baverstock	(P)	Councillor P Hurst	(P)
Councillor C Borg-Neal	(A)	Councillor J Lovell	(P)
Councillor P Boulton	(P)	Councillor P Mutton	(A)
Councillor C Dowden	(P)	Councillor J Neal	(P)
Councillor B Few Brown	(-)	Councillor T Preston	(A)
Councillor A Finlay	(A)	Councillor I Richards	(P)
Councillor K Hamilton	(A)	Councillor C Thom	(P)

Also in attendance:  
Councillor Hawke

94

### Minutes

#### Resolved:

**That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2018 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.**

95

### Updates on Panels

#### Planning Panel

Councillor Hibberd reported that his panel had held 5 meetings and was now in a position to make recommendations to the Committee at its next meeting. Councillor Hibberd was also aware that the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) would be undertaking an independent review of the Council's planning committees in the autumn. It was agreed that once the panel's findings had been considered by the Committee they could be fed into the PAS review.

#### Council Tax Support Scheme

Councillor Baverstock explained that she was working with the Acting Head of Revenues (Benefits and Customer Services) on the results of the consultation and the panel would reconvene to consider the results.

### Parking (Car Park and Streets) Panel

Councillor Baverstock updated the Committee on the Parking Panel. She explained that the panel had met twice and were in the process of finalising the scoping template which they aimed to bring back to the Committee in September.

### Audit Panel

Councillor Neal explained that the Audit Panel held prior to this Committee meeting was to comment on the draft Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2017/18 before they are considered by the General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 30 July 2018.

## 96 **Update on the Police & Crime Commissioner's Panel**

Councillor Richards gave a report on the Police & Crime Commissioner's Panel as the Council's representative.

The office of the Police and Crime Commissioner was set up as an elected position to replace the Police Authorities. The role was to hold the Chief Constable to account. The Commissioner set the budget for policing in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The Police and Crime Commissioner could also hold reserves for the running of the force and also managed the estates of the police force as well as larger projects involving transformation of services.

The total budget for policing for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was £315m. With this year's increase in precept the cost for a band D rate payer was £177.46 per year. 1.7% of this budget was used to manage the Commissioner's office and his commissioning responsibilities.

The Police and Crime Panel met four times a year to scrutinise the actions and budget of the Crime Commissioner. These meetings were open to the public. The panel was made up mainly of members of Councils within the Hampshire and Isle of Wight policing area with additional members with appropriate skills co-opted as appropriate. From the panel working groups were formed (Finance, Police and Crime Plan Working Group, Complaints Sub-Committee and Effective and efficient pro-active Scrutiny Group) which met outside the panel and reported back.

Councillor Richards explained that he also attended the Community Safety Management Group meetings which are held with community officers, police, fire and neighbourhood watch representatives.

Members noted the following issues;

- The funding received from Government for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary is one of the lowest per capita in the country and the rate of tax levied by the PCC is the 12<sup>th</sup> lowest.
- Joint premises sharing between police and fire.
- Operational deployment is the responsibility of the Chief Constable.
- Scrutiny group's areas of responsibility are set out as in the legislation and are made up from volunteers from the panel.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner was also responsible for grants and crime prevention.

Councillor Baverstock raised concern about the reduction in PCSO's and she would write a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner on behalf of her Town Council.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Richards for his presentation.

## 97 **Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Committee considered and updated the Work Programme as follows:

- Planning Panel final report – add to 19 September
- Parking Panel scoping template – add to 19 September
- Drug prevention services – added for 17 October

### **Resolved:**

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

(Meeting terminated at 6.25pm)