

Minutes of the **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in The Annexe, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey
on 18 March 2020 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor Z Brooks (Chairman)

Councillor N Lodge (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor G Bailey

Councillor K Hamilton

Councillor D Baverstock

Councillor R Meyer

Councillor C Borg-Neal

Councillor K North

Councillor T Burley

Councillor R Rowles

Councillor D Coole

Councillor A Warnes

Councillor C Donnelly

Councillor N Gwynne

Also in attendance

Councillor N Adams-King

Councillor A Dowden

Councillor N Daas

Councillor P North

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C Dowden, A Finlay, N Matthews and J Parker

368

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

369

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

370

Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

371

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2020

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

372

Call in Items

There were no call in items.

373

Urgent decisions taken since last meeting

No urgent decisions have been taken since the last meeting.

374

Appointment of Vice Chairman

Resolved:

That Councillor Lodge be appointed as Vice-Chairman until the first meeting after Annual Council in 2020.

375

Updates on Panels

The Chairman drew Members' attention to Annex 2 of the Work Programme report which detailed updates on ongoing panels.

Councillor Baverstock requested that the report back on the 'Future of Health provision in Andover and Romsey' Panel be deferred. This was in light of the recent announcement that Adelaide Surgery in Andover is to shut on 31 October and also no response has been received from Southern Health on future plans for Romsey Hospital.

Councillor Borg Neal reported that the first meeting of the Armed Forces Covenant Panel will be held on Monday 23 March in Conference Room 2, Beech Hurst at 6pm.

376

Climate Emergency Draft Action Plan

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development to consider the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan.

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a special report in relation to global warming. Following this a number of UK local authorities started declaring climate emergencies. In response to the increased focus on the climate, the Council declared a climate emergency on 4 September 2019. The Council invited the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to establish a cross party work group comprising Council Officers and Members (including the Environmental Portfolio Holder), with a remit to draw together the existing work of the Council in reducing the impacts of climate change and develop an action plan that identifies the steps the Council can take to achieve carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.

In order to produce a Climate Emergency Action Plan, Overview and Scrutiny were tasked with establishing a cross party working group that would develop the plan. At the Overview and Scrutiny meeting of 16 October the draft scoping document was presented and agreed. This proposed seven cross party member/officer work streams which were;

- Digital and smart working
- Premises and Asset Management
- Transport, Fleet and Plant
- Reducing, reusing, recycling
- Enhancing the natural environment
- Working with communities and businesses
- Infrastructure and built environment.

All Members, not just those on OSCOM, had the opportunity to be part of the work streams. As part of drafting the action plan the 'working with communities and businesses' work stream spoke and shared ideas with Parish Councils and other organisations.

The draft action plan set out how the Council intended to respond to the climate emergency. The actions focused on how the Council functions and its role as an employer and how it can move towards being carbon neutral.

Members commented and agreed on each of the work streams and made comments on the draft plan. Main changes discussed:

- Monitoring – reviewed timescales for update reports and an approach for discussing new actions / ideas
- Actions: Corporate Actions – amended so all actions are throughout the timeline, rather than short term
- Actions: Property & Energy – moved the action in relation to windows to throughout the timeline; moved the rainwater harvesting and living wall actions to medium term
- Actions: Property & Energy - amended living wall action to also include green roofs

The Committee were advised that monitoring would be carried out through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and performance management. There would also be an opportunity to update and add further actions to the plan.

Recommended to Council:

That the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan annexed to the report be agreed.

377 Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Committee considered and agreed the Work Programme.

Resolved:

That the work programme be approved.

(The meeting terminated at 6.50 pm)