

Executive Committee

11 March 2009

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor M Braley (Vice-Chair) in the Chair, and
Councillors P Anderson, J Brunner, B Clayton and C MacMillan

Also Present:

Councillors D Hunt and Mr M Collins (Standards Committee)

Officers:

G Revans, J Smith, J Staniland, H Halls, S Hanley, C Wilson, S Mullins,
E Hopkins, C Walker, A Highway and P Bellamy

Committee Services Officer:

D Sunman

251. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gandy and Hall.

252. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

253. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deputy Leader apologised and withdrew comments he had made in the debate on Redditch Children's & Young People's Action Plan regarding Worcestershire County Council and Social Workers in general at the Executive Committee meeting held on 18 February 2009.

The Deputy Leader also advised that the following matter had been accepted as Urgent Business:

Item 10 – Asset Maintenance – Extension of Term Contracts.

.....
Chair

254. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 January 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

255. HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Members considered proposed amendments to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy and Redditch Home Choice Scheme, which were approved by this Committee on 7 March 2007 and implemented on 6 September 2007.

The Committee was informed that the proposals were as a result of a review of the scheme 12 months after its introduction to ensure that the needs of the local community and the Council's legal obligations were being met.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the revised Allocations Policy be adopted; and**
- 2) the Policy be added to the Constitutional Policy Framework.**

256. COMMERCIAL RE-USE OF COUNCIL INFORMATION

The Committee considered a report setting out a policy to comply with the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005.

The report outlined the requirements of the Regulations as follows:

- a) to publish an Information Asset Register of documents which would be available for re-use;
- b) to provide a clear statement on arrangements for the re-use of information;
- c) to clearly explain any applicable charges for re-use and any licence terms and conditions;
- d) to process applications for re-use in a timely, open and transparent manner and through fair, consistent and non-discriminatory processes; and
- e) to establish a quick and easily accessible complaints process.

Officers described the Information Free Trader Scheme (IFTS) which had been developed by the Office of Public Sector Information to set and assess standards for public sector bodies together with an on-line assessment which would demonstrate basic compliance with IFTS principles and Regulations.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) **the policy attached to the report at Appendix 1 be approved and added to the Constitutional Policy Framework; subject to which**

RESOLVED that

- 2) **the model licences attached to the report at Appendix 2 be approved; and**
- 3) **the Council undertake the online assessment for the Office of Public Sector's Information Free-Trader Scheme.**

257. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR MONITORING - OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2008

Members considered a report on all aspects of the Council's performance for the period October – December 2008 compared with the same period in 2007. Officers provided an Exception Report which highlighted Performance Indicators that exceeded their target , were below target or where no data had been provided for the quarter.

Officers were asked to check the percentage figures for NI157(b) which measured processing of minor planning applications determined within 8 weeks.

RESOLVED that

the update on key performance indicators for the period October – December 2008 be noted.

258. SERVICE PLANS 2009 - 2012

The Deputy Chief Executive gave a presentation highlighting the work done over a 4 month period to develop Service Plans for all

11 March 2009

areas of the Council's business. She informed Members of the timetable for endorsement of both the Service Plans and the Corporate Plan.

The Committee thanked Officers for their work in producing the Service Plans.

Council Members were asked to give notice to relevant Officers of any questions arising from the Service Plans for discussion at Council on 20 April 2009.

RECOMMENDED that

the Service Plans for the Authority be endorsed and considered alongside the Corporate Plan at the Council meeting on 20 April 2009.

259. ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

Members received a report which provided information regarding the current status of the Environmental Enhancement Programme (EEP). The Committee noted that the programme would contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities and the national agenda of creating Cleaner, Greener, Safer, Sustainable and Stronger Communities.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the current sites in Woodrow, Winyates and Lodge Park be completed in accordance with the agreed project plans and that the £100,000 detailed at paragraph 4.5 of the report remain in the Capital Programme as it is;**
- 2) the direction of the project be amended to focus on the issue of addressing the growing problem of parking provision on many of the Borough's Estates (£250,000), including the removal of poor quality garage stock in the Council's ownership to facilitate the creation of additional general parking and for the Capital Landscape Project (£25,000) to pick up any relevant landscape enhancements;**
- 3) Officers bring forward proposals to a future meeting of the Executive Committee regarding environmental improvement schemes where the remaining £800,000 could be spent;**

- 4) authority to expend up to the sum(s) approved, be agreed in accordance with Standing Order 41, for the purpose indicated; and

RECOMMENDED that

- 5) a budget of £250,000 per year for four years be approved for addressing the issues of parking provision and that an additional sum of £25,000 per year be added to the Capital Landscape Project budget for the purpose described in option 2(b).

260. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16 February 2009 be received and noted.

261. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

Members considered an update report on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels, and similar bodies which report to the Executive Committee.

RESOLVED that

the report on the work of the Committee's Advisory Panels etc. be received and noted, subject to the following updates:

- 1) the Community Safety Advisory Panel – need for the group to be investigated;
- 2) a further three dates for the Economic Advisory Panel meetings had been identified;
- 3) the next meeting of the Housing Advisory Panel would be on 14 April 2009;
- 4) the next meeting of the Procurement Steering Group would be on 6 April 2009; and

- 5) **Member involvement in the Value for Money Officer Group be investigated.**

262. ACTION MONITORING

Members noted the Action Monitoring Sheet and confirmed which tasks had been completed and, therefore, could be deleted from future reports.

RESOLVED that

subject to Member's suggested amendments, the report be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm
and closed at 9.05pm

.....
Chair