

Executive Committee Meeting 6th March 2018
Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 5th March 2018

As the Overview and Scrutiny Committee met the evening before the Executive Committee meeting this evening there was insufficient time available to produce minute extracts for each of the items that were considered by scrutiny Members. This document provides brief background as well as a list of the recommendations for each of the items that were pre-scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Item 5: Leisure and Cultural Services Business Case

The Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources and the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services presented the Leisure and Cultural Services Business Case. There was a detailed debate around this matter but the following key points informed the recommendations that were proposed by the Committee:

- Members were keen to ensure that the elected membership of the Shareholders Committee reflected the political balance of the Council.
- The Committee was advised that at a meeting of the Stakeholders Group the potential for elected Members to be appointed on a three year rolling basis had been discussed.
- There was general consensus that appointment on a three year rolling basis would be sensible as the Council has a system of elections by thirds.
- The potential for the Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) to be managed like a business in order to be as efficient as possible was discussed by the Committee.
- In order to manage the company as effectively as possible Members noted that the LATC might decide to offer incentives to staff, such as performance related pay or bonuses.
- The Committee agreed that any such incentives offered as part of staff remuneration packages should be included in the range of matters reserved for approval by the Shareholders Committee.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) **the five elected Members appointed to the Shareholders Committee of the Local Authority Trading Company should be appointed in accordance with the political balance of the Council;**
- 2) **the five elected Members appointed to the Shareholders Committee of the Local Authority Trading Company should be appointed on a three year rolling basis; and**
- 3) **the range of matters reserved for approval by the Shareholders Committee, as detailed on page 27 of the business case (page 43 of the main agenda pack), should be amended so that the fourth bullet point from the bottom reads as follows: “*Approval of above inflation pay increases and any other remuneration packages*”.**

Item 6: Civil Contingencies Short Sharp Review – Final Report

Councillor Gareth Prosser, Chair of the Civil Contingencies Short Sharp Review, presented the group’s findings.

RECOMMENDED that

the content of the Council's emergency plan should be reviewed on an annual basis.

RESOLVED that

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should receive an annual update in respect of the Council's emergency planning arrangements.

(As the Overview and Scrutiny Committee can determine the contents of its own work programme the Executive Committee is asked to NOTE the above resolution).

Item 18: One Public Estate

The Head of Planning and Regeneration and the Head of Economic Development and Regeneration for the North Worcestershire Economic Development Unit (NWEDR) presented the report. There was a detailed and lengthy debate in respect of this matter and the Executive Committee may wish to take the following into account when considering the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Some Members raised concerns about the level of Member involvement to date in work on both the Town Centre Regeneration Prospectus and the One Public Estate Review.
- Concerns were also raised about the limited amount of engagement with the public in respect of both of these to date.
- However, Members welcomed the fact that action was being taken to attempt to regenerate the town centre.
- A proposal was made for the opportunities available to regenerate the town centre to form the basis of a Task Group exercise, which would enable elected Members to input into the process.
- It was noted that the recommendations due for consideration by the Executive Committee on 6th March 2018 included a call for the commitment of £50,000 to support the development of the proposals contained in the Town Centre Regeneration Prospectus (recommendation 1 to the Executive Committee).
- However, some Members raised concerns that should this recommendation be approved a scrutiny Task Group review would have no value.
- A proposal was made for a recommendation to be made that Officers should be granted £50,000 to continue to support the development of proposals contained within the Regeneration Prospectus. However, this proposal was defeated.
- Instead, a majority of the Committee voted to propose that further work on the Town Centre Regeneration Prospectus and the One Public Estate Review should be postponed to allow time for an Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish exercise to be undertaken.

RECOMMENDED that

further work in respect of the Town Centre Regeneration Prospectus and the One Public Estate Review be postponed to allow time for an Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish exercise to be undertaken to investigate this matter in more detail.