

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6 March 2017

Present:

Councillor Haines (Chairman)

Councillor Bullivant (Vice Chairman)

Councillors: Brodie, Clarence, Dennis, Dewhirst, Eden, Ford, Fusco, Golder, Hocking, Hook, Jeffery, Keeling, Mayne, Nutley, Parker, Thorne and Winsor.

Apologies:

Councillors Connett, Cox, Grainger, Kerswell, Morgan and Prowse.

Other Members in Attendance:

Councillors Cook, Gribble, Hellier-Laing and Russell.

In Attendance:

Sue Aggett – Business Lead Environment Health & Well Being

Kathryn Chidzey – HR & OD Business Partner

Liz Gingell – Corporate Performance Officer

Paul Nicholls – Food Health & Safety Manager

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record.

2. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Consideration was given to a report which provided performance data for Quarter 3 (1 October to 31 December 2016) on the Teignbridge Ten (T10) programmes. Each T10 project has actions with performance indicators and/or projects which monitor their progress against targets and milestones.

Members considered the report which provided detail on actions being taken to rectify performance issues detailed within the agenda report, during discussion, particular reference was made to:-

- (a) CSCLS 3.1 – improved street and environmental cleanliness level of litter. A Member questioned the appropriateness of annual target of 2%. In response, Members were advised that the target represented the number of streets which should not fall below the accepted grade. Clarification on the grading system used when assessing the level of litter during street inspections would be provided to Members.

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- (b) CSCLS 2.2 – working with other agencies communities and landowners to reduce fly tipping. A Member raised concern at the County Council’s proposal to implement charging to dispose of certain materials at recycling centres and the likely increase of fly-tipping. He questioned the level of consultation between the two authorities. It was agreed that the Environmental Protection Manager would be asked to provide information on consultation and monitoring of any increase in fly-tipping incidences would be reported to Members.
- (c) CSCLS 8.1 – review existing dog fouling policy and consider introduction of Public Space Protection Orders. A Member requested an update on the project team meeting, this would be provided through the Members’ Newsletter.
- (d) CSHAH 5.8 – working days lost due to sickness absence – average per employee. Members were provided with an outline of changes to the HR/Personnel function within the Council which included the implementation of policies and learning development to provide tailored and strategic advice to managers to pre-empt health issues in the work place and preventative measures to proactively manage sickness absence. Members were advised that the health of staff was being promoted and monitored by the Health & Well-Being Group, made up of officers, councillors and union representatives.

The Business Lead confirmed that the Council worked with two occupational health companies, this ensured there was no delay in providing assistance, should it be required to support a member of staff. She also confirmed that an analysis of staff absence, confirmed that stress was not the major reason for absence. The Portfolio Holder for Health & Well-Being supported the holistic actions being taken to address this performance indicator.

Resolved

To note the actions being taken to rectify performance.

3. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY 2016-2020

The Communications Officer presented an updated Communications Strategy covering the period 2016-2020. The Strategy set out the Council’s aims for corporate communications for this four-year period. Members were provided with detail of the developing channels of media relations which included social media (Facebook, Twitter) improvements, website upgrade as well as communications with local media. The new Strategy reflected these changes.

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Resolved

That the Communications Strategy 2016–2020 be recommended to Executive for approval.

4. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

The Committee noted the Executive Forward Plan.

5. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

The Chairman advised that:

- an informal Strata briefing would be held on the rising of the next meeting;
- Emergency Planning presentation would be timetabled.

The remainder of the work programme was noted.

6. STRATA JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The link to the minutes and agendas of the Strata Joint Scrutiny Committee was noted.

7. SOUTH EAST DEVON HABITAT REGULATIONS

The link to the minutes and agendas of the South East Devon Habitat Regulations Executive meetings was noted.

MIKE HAINES
Chairman