

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Monday, 9 September 2019 in Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee members present:

Councillors Ibison, I Amos, R Amos, C Birch, E Ellison, Fail, Longton and O'Neill

Apologies for absence:

Councillors Matthew Vincent, Ballard, Collinson, Cropper, Leech and Minto

Other councillors present:

None

Officers present:

Ruth Hunter, Street Scene Manager

Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer

Emma Keany, Governance Trainee

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

18 Declarations of interest

None.

19 Confirmation of minutes

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 22 July 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

20 District Environmental Enforcement Pilot

Ruth Hunter, Street Scene Manager, presented a report regarding the District Environmental Enforcement Pilot scheme.

She gave reasons as to why the scheme had been introduced, the impact the scheme had made on the Borough's streets and the desire for the committee to look into the next steps.

She gave insight into how the services had been monitored internally, the

back systems used by District Environmental Enforcement and how the Council had used social media to keep up momentum and to get the word out that Wyre had taken steps to keep the streets clean.

The committee discussed various points, which included littering by young people, purposeful and accidental littering, the financial benefits for both District Environmental Enforcement and the Council, and the transparency of the fine process.

Members discussed the possible scope of a Task Group regarding the contract with District Environmental Enforcement. It was highlighted that there may be a need for more information to be made available so that the Task Group could scrutinise all aspects of the contract, to ensure the Council delivered the best service for its residents.

It was agreed that the committee would commission a task group to review the District Environmental Enforcement pilot scheme and to provide recommendations for how the council should continue with environmental enforcement.

21 Business Plan 2019/20 - Quarterly performance statement

The Service Director Performance and Innovation submitted a report, the 1st Quarter Performance Statement 2019/20, April - June 2019.

Concern was expressed about the following worsening measures, to which particular attention would be paid on receipt of the Quarterly Performance Statement for Quarter 2 of 2019/2020 in December:

- Town Centre vacancy rates – Fleetwood
- Out of work benefit claimant count

Comment was made that the Council should be seeking to increase the employment rates of Wyre residents employed in Wyre.

It was agreed that the report be noted.

22 O&S Work Programme 2019/20 - update report

Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer, introduced a report that had been submitted by the Service Director Performance and Innovation.

An update was given to the committee on the current Task Groups and the progress they had made. Members were made aware of the planned meetings for the Poulton- Fleetwood Link Task Group and of the Residents Parking Permits Task Group, which was scheduled to start on the 16th September 2019.

It was highlighted that at the October meeting of the committee, a report would be submitted by David Thow, Head of Planning, regarding small businesses and Wyre's high streets. There was the possibility for this to lead

to a new task group, on Wyre's high streets to be commissioned in the New Year.

The Chairman, Councillor Ibison, reiterated the importance of attendance at the additional meeting, of the committee, on the 23rd September. The meeting was intended to be an opportunity for the committee to consider the implication for Wyre of the recently published Statutory Guidance on Scrutiny.

The meeting started at 18:00 and finished at 18:46.

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