



RESOURCES
SCRUTINY & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE 2022 AT 10:00AM
CIVIC CENTRE, RIDLEY STREET, REDCAR, YORKSHIRE, TS10 1TD

CONTACT
Mr David Boville
(01642) 444617
6 June 2022

CIRCULATION

Councillors Massey (Chair), S Jeffrey (Vice Chair), Brown, Craig, Cutler, Dowson, Head, Hixon, I Nightingale, Rider, Sandra Smith, Thomson, Turner, Watts and Wells.
Councillors Lanigan and G Nightingale (Cabinet Members - for information)
All Members of the Council (for information)
Managing Director (Head of Paid Service)
The Press [except for Confidential item(s)]

A G E N D A

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Apologies for Absence.	
2. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2022.	2-3
3. Declarations of Interest.	
4. Relevant Cabinet Reports.	
Would Members please refer to their copy of the Cabinet Workbook for the meeting (these papers will follow).	
5. Quarter 4 Performance Report.	presentation
6. Motion Tracker.	4-5
7. Action List.	6
8. Any items the Chair certifies as urgent.	

4 May 2022

RESOURCES SCRUTINY AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Resources Scrutiny and Improvement Committee was held on 4 May 2022 at the Civic Centre.

PRESENT Councillor Massey (Chair),
Councillors Cutler, Dowson, Gray, Head, Hixon,
S Jeffrey, I Nightingale, Rider, Sandra Smith,
Thomson, Watts and Wells.

OFFICIALS D Boville, R Mitchell, S Newton, and C Styles.

IN ATTENDANCE Councillors Hunt and G Nightingale.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Brown.

59. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Scrutiny and Improvement Committee held on 23 March 2022 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

60. EQUALITY OBJECTIVES 2022 – FINAL APPROVAL

The Managing Director presented a report seeking approval of the Council's Equality Objectives for 2022, which would be considered by Cabinet on 10 May 2022.

As part of the ensuing discussion, the following points were made:

- The terminology used in the report is consistent with what relevant groups and organisations had requested the Council use.
- Members were being encouraged to share their contacts within communities with the Council, to enable their involvement in the development of further, more community based objectives in future.
- Access to the Borough's countryside was a big issue and the Council needed to commit more resources to help alleviate this.
- It was envisioned that the equality objectives would inform all future Council policies and initiatives moving forward.
- It was disappointing that more consultation responses had not been received from faith groups.
- While the number of responses to the consultation was small, the responses received were of high quality.
- Each Cabinet report was underpinned by an equality impact

4 May 2022

assessment. Work should be undertaken to ensure these were more visible to Members.

- Equality impact assessments should be undertaken earlier in the decision making process to allow for any negative impact to be mitigated as much as possible.
- Elected Members were responsible for setting the policy direction of the Council, it was therefore unclear why they had not been included earlier in the roll-out of the training programme designed to change the culture of the Council:-**NOTED**

61. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN QUARTER 4 PROGRESS REPORT**

The Managing Director presented a report setting out the progress made in delivering the actions agreed in the Council's Corporate Plan, which would be considered by Cabinet on 10 May 2022.

As part of the ensuing discussion, the following points were made:

- Work was being undertaken to ensure staff were contactable whilst working from home.
- The Government had advised that Councils should not be borrowing to fund schemes with the intention to make a profit. This was part of the reason as to why the development of the Council's Commercialisation Strategy was currently on hold.
- Lobbying the Government was often ineffective, with the views of local authorities often being ignored:-**NOTED**

62. **MOTION TRACKER**

The Governance Manager presented an update on the Motions that had been passed at the last meeting of the Borough Council:-**NOTED**

63. **ACTION LIST**

The Governance Manager presented an update on the actions arising from the last meeting of the Resources Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

Members expressed concern that the Task & Finish Panel to consider an appropriate forum to discuss climate change had not been convened as requested. The Chair advised that he had expected this to be addressed in an upcoming Cabinet report but it was felt that this matter had not been appropriately consulted on with Scrutiny Members:-**NOTED**

Date Of Meeting	Motion / action	Lead Officer	Decision	Action Update
28.4.22	<p>RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Wells and duly seconded by Councillor Lanigan that:</p> <p>“Attendance at some committee meetings is poor and, in some cases, they have struggled to be quorate. There are cases where members do not attend committees, no apologies are sent, and no substitute is in attendance either. In practical terms, this defeats the object of having political proportionality arrangements in place and means that residents are not being fully represented.</p> <p>In order to address this problem and promote attendance at meetings, this Council resolves that, with effect from the new civic year:</p> <p>1.An attendance matrix will be published with the agenda for each meeting of the Council, Cabinet, Boards, Outside Bodies and all committees, showing attendance of each relevant member over the course of the current civic year.</p> <p>2.Attendance details for all members will be published on the Council’s website; this will include whether apologies presented, the reason for non-attendance and whether a substitute was provided.</p> <p>3. Where a councillor fails to attend a relevant official</p>	AP	The motion was agreed	A draft attendance matrix has been created with data to be collected at this first cycle of meetings following the AGM. The matrix for each meeting will then be circulated with the meeting papers for every subsequent meeting.

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	<p>meeting on two successive occasions and, on those occasions, no substitute is present either, this will be reported to the appropriate member and, if relevant, political group leader, who will be asked to consider whether the place on the committee should be allocated to another elected member, at the next available meeting of the Council.”</p>			
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Scrutiny & Improvement Committee – Action list

Actions from 09.03.22 meeting		
Action	Officer	Update
Members requested an update on the creation of the detailed action plan which would underpin the recommendations arising from the Peer Review.	RM	A follow up briefing session was held with Members on 24 May 2022 and an amended Peer Review Action Plan is currently scheduled to be presented to Cabinet on 21 June 2022.
Actions from 04.05.22 meeting		
Members expressed concern that the Task & Finish Panel to consider an appropriate forum to discuss climate change had not been convened as requested.	Committee Chair	This matter was raised at the Resources Scrutiny agenda meeting of the Task & Finish Panel with the first meeting to be convened as soon as possible.