

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1

TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2022

Present:

Councillors H Cox (Chair), Jenks (Vice-Chair), D Cox, Foden, Hocking, MacGregor, Mullone and Thorne

Members in attendance:

Councillor J Hook

Apologies:

Councillors Clarence, Orme, Parker, Rollason, Connett

Members in attendance virtually

Councillors Parker-Khan, Keeling, Purser, Dewhirst, Nutley, Taylor, Wrigley

Officers in Attendance:

Amanda Pujol, Head of Community Services and Improvement
Matthew Billings, Team Leader NDR Sundry Debt, Revenue and Benefits
Jack Williams, Performance Data Analyst
Trish Corns, Democratic Services Officer
Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

96. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor H Cox, seconded by Councillor Foden and

RESOLED

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

97. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Cox declared an Appendix 2 non pecuniary interest in relation to Minute 103 below, by virtue of his position as a charity Trustee and did not vote on this item.

98. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

99. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS (IF ANY)

None.

100. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

The Executive Forward Plan listing items to be considered by the Executive over the next few months including to which overview and scrutiny committee remit each issue fell, was noted.

101. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee's work programme as circulated with the agenda was noted.

102. EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIENNIAL PRESENTATION - CLIMATE CHANGE, ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY, COASTAL AND FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

Cllr J Hook the Executive Member for climate change, ecological emergency, and flood and coastal risk management updated the committee on progress of services within their portfolio. Councillor Hook thanks staff for their dedication in delivering services. The update included the following:

- The main projects currently progressing were the decarbonisation works at Newton Abbot and Broadmeadow leisure centres and Teignmouth Lido, and the Council offices.
- Officers and members met with the group Action on Climate in Teignbridge every four weeks to provide updates on projects and opportunities for collaboration
- Tree planting projects around the district.
- The progression of Matford SANGS which would open once the car park was completed.
- Ongoing cycle improvements.
- Ongoing Network Rail coastal resilience projects.
- Progression of the Teignmouth and Holcombe beach management plan.

The full presentation can be found at [Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 on Tuesday, 10th May, 2022, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#)

103. DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY - CHARITY SHOPS

Consideration was given to the agenda report.

The award of relief to charity shops is set out in legislation and supported and maintained by the Council's Discretionary Rate Relief policy. The majority of charity shops receive only mandatory relief, over which we have no local discretion. Only two premises receive a 20% discretionary 'top up'.

It was considered that given the very low number and cost of premises receiving discretionary support there would be no benefit to convening a task and finish group to review the reliefs awarded to this type of organisation. However it was considered that information on discretionary rate relief should be made available to charity shops.

It was proposed by Councillor H Cox, seconded by Councillor Jenks and

RECOMMEDED

The Executive be advised that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers that:

1. The convening of a task and finish group to review the award of discretionary rate relief to charity shops is not pursued further.
2. Information on the discretionary rate relief is circulated with the next business rate annual billing to ensure all charity shops are aware of this additional relief if eligible.

104. COUNCIL STRATEGY PERFORMANCE MONITORING Q4

The Chair referred to the agenda report covering the period December 2021 to 30 March 2022 which updated performance of the Council's Strategy 2020- 2030 T10 priorities, under the auspices of the Committee. Details of the programmes, projects and performance indicators with a concern or caution status together with an explanation of the performance and improvement plan was detailed in the appendix of the agenda report.

In relation to the concern items for additional homes provided it was noted that this was dependent on third party developers so out of the control of the Council.

In response to questions in relation to other areas of concern, it was noted that investment had been made in temporary accommodation to house rough sleepers, and the Council was working with local housing associations and progressing the Teignbridge 100 project to provide affordable housing.

RESOLVED

The report be received and actions being taken to rectify performance issues detailed in the agenda report appendix be noted.

CLLR H COX
Chairman