

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 2 JULY 2018

Present:

Councillor Haines (Chairman)

Councillors Colclough, Evans, Hockin, G Hook, Jeffery, Jones, Kerswell, Mayne, Morgan, Nutley, Orme, Peart, Prowse, Smith, Thorne, Winsor and Wrigley

Other Members in Attendance:

Councillors Bullivant, Golder and Russell

Apologies:

Councillors Ford, Connett, Dewhirst, Eden and J Hook (was Brodie)

Officers in Attendance:

Tony Watson, Interim Head of Commercial Services

Gloria Lloyd, Human Resources & Organisational Development Manager

Rachel Shannon, Human Resources Advisor

Liz Gingell, Corporate Performance Officer

Steve Wotton, Finance Officer

Paul Nicholls, Food Health & Safety Manager

Kay O'Flaherty, Business Development & Improvement Team Leader

James Teed, Leisure Manager

Sharon Sissons, Democratic Services Officer (Exeter City Council)

66. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

67. MINUTES STRATA JOINT EXECUTIVE 11 JUNE 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018 were noted.

68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

69. T10 - OUT AND ABOUT AND ACTIVE - HEALTH AT THE HEART - STRONG COMMUNITIES

Three presentations were made on the work being carried out as part of the overall Council's strategy for the period 2016 to 2025 in relation to the Teignbridge 10 Super Projects, the ten connected areas of work which each had a widespread impact on the local economy, community well-being, and environment.

James Teed, Leisure Manager provided Members with detail in his presentation on 'Out and About and Active' and set out the availability of opportunities for a healthy active lifestyle. He made particular reference to the Leisure Strategic Review document, which underpinned much of the Council's work. A significant amount of activity and planning strategy work had already taken place, but more was planned with the public, with the aim of getting the 'inactive active'. He also outlined the achievements in the first two years of the Council's Strategy which included:-

- 168,000 activity sessions for older people,
- 102,000 activity sessions for younger people,
- 1000 sessions aimed at getting people cycling,
- improvements of green spaces, play areas and sports facilities to increase opportunities for activities also working with local communities,
- offering a range of activities to encourage activity and remove barriers to participation through a number of leisure partnerships working through the health agenda including Active Devon, a Pre-Diabetes Pilot Project, Sport Relief, Sugar Smart, Refill Devon and school taster sessions,
- the healthy information campaign and other interventional work with local G.P's and the NHS,
- a range of volunteer development activities, and
- the Teignbridge sport and community awards which celebrate sports and activity achievements of the local community as well as the South West Youth Games with 2000 young people expected to take part.

James Teed responded to a Member's enquiry about participants in the South West Games and confirmed that over 10,000 young people were involved from across the south west. He also confirmed the opportunity for capturing meaningful data from participants or attendees at events. He also took on Members' ideas and suggestions about future events including the Open Field day, an annual event promoting greater public access to open space and fields, and to the Consortium of Gardens - COG, which was a collaboration of volunteers who help to maintain encourage the public to use gardens and open spaces.

Paul Nicholls, the Food Health and Safety Manager and Programme Lead for the Health at Heart Team provided an overview of the initiative and also spoke about the efforts to improve the health and well-being of Teignbridge's population and community. This work included partnership work with other stakeholders who shared the ambition to design evidence-based services and support and pool resources and capacity in a coordinated manner to achieve the best possible outcome for the communities and those in greatest need of the support. He also put into context the opportunities to reduce health inequalities through their work with a range of partners in an effort to improve the population health and well-being outcomes. It was important to ensure that people could remain as independent as possible in their own homes. The presentation covered the wider determinants of health and well-being which included:-

- lifestyle,
- community,
- the local economy

- activities
- the built and
- natural environment, as well as the
- global ecosystem.

He responded to a Member's comment about compensating for society's lifestyles and the importance of starting and maintaining good health habits. The Member also commented on the importance of enough space for young people to play and it was essential for local authorities and developers to ensure there were sufficient parks and open spaces within new developments. Members congratulated officers on the excellent partnership and community initiatives including the 'sunscreen strategy' to ensure that children had access to sun protection during the day. He also noted a comment about the need for good air quality and he would speak to the Environmental Protection Manager, David Eaton on this matter.

Kay O'Flaherty, Business Development and Improvement Team Leader provided a presentation on Stronger Communities, which encouraged Members to help develop and deliver local ideas. Support was also offered for community led planning to shape the future including five adopted or made neighbourhood plans and 11 approved neighbourhood area applications. The team also provided grant funding to support community activities and growth as well as encourage networking between the voluntary businesses, community sectors with a remit of helping others, to help communities become more resilient, resourceful, and sustainable to provide safer places to live.

The Chairman and Members thanked the officers for the presentations, copies of which would be included in the Members' newsletter.

70. QUARTER 4 2017-2018 COUNCIL STRATEGY PERFORMANCE

The Business Improvement Officer Liz Gingell presented the report which provided data for Quarter 4 (1 January to 31 March 2018) on the progress made in respect of the Teignbridge Ten (T10) programmes. Each T10 project had actions with performance indicators and/or projects which monitored progress against targets and milestones. There was also an overview for 2017 and 2018 as well as the key achievements and review of the proposed performance targets for 2018-20.

The report included the outcome of the Council's Strategy Satisfaction Survey, which included a more detailed set of questions to a much wider audience including face to face interaction with residents and also respondents of the resident's panel. A finance overview for 2017/18 revenue and capital budgets also set out the actual spend against the year-end estimate (outturn) and the base budget for the same financial year. A total of 87 Performance Indicators (PI) reports were included, with 24 of the 44 PI's with targets performing above or well above target, whilst 11 PI's were underperforming. The detail of the actions being taken to rectify performance detailed in Appendix A was set out below:-

CSROH 5.1 - Number of rough sleepers on a snapshot date (Y1 – 2) - A Member welcomed the Council's emphasis on this issue and support of vulnerable

individuals and he felt this Council should be proud, and applaud the work of officers who were both sympathetic and empathetic in their approach.

CSROH 1.3 - Number of self-build homes provided - A Member commented on the relatively low number of plots for self-build properties. It was noted that the target of 31 per year related to a Local Plan target. Work would be undertaken to consider a compounded target for this PI by the Business Manager, Simon Thornley.

Clean Scene Summary - Council policies on dog fouling and access restrictions - A Member commented on the dog fouling restrictions and recent tragic incidents involving dog attacks on Dawlish's black swans. He was concerned at the lack of progress made and uncertainty of the enforcement and requested a PSPO for the Dawlish Lawn to be implemented as soon as possible. A request would be sent to the Environmental Protection Manager, David Eaton to pursue.

CSCLS 5.1 - Household waste recycled and composted - The Chairman referred to the static figures and the proposed Member Working Group on recycling and waste. He advised that some background work was needed, but action sooner rather than later was desirable.

CSCLS 7.1 - % of monitored sites not meeting the air quality standard for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) – A Member referred to the upgrade of the South Devon Highway and sought an assurance that air quality monitoring would continue in the adjacent locations. It was noted that this request would be passed to the Environmental Protection Manager. The Chairman also suggested that with the change in the traffic flow it would be useful to obtain similar data for Newton Abbot.

Going to Town summary –

- Working with and supporting continued Town Centre Management – Members commented on the excellent work carried out by the street sweepers in Bovey Tracy, keeping the streets clean and tidy and also welcomed the update regarding the Town Centre Manager post for Teignmouth and Dawlish.

CSGT 6.1 - Number of new homes provided in town centres – The lack of a target was noted.

CSGP 1.1 - Satisfaction with new development in your area - The Chairman referred to the site of new developments which were below target. He welcomed the proposed annual Members' Planning Tour which would visit all the sites surveyed this year, with a likely date of September or October. A Member was aware of the risk of costly appeals, but suggested that with their local knowledge they were often well placed to comment on planning matters. The Chairman suggested it would be worthwhile to see if the planning tour could highlight any such instances.

CSGP 2.1 - % satisfaction with open space/play facilities on new residential developments – The lower satisfaction level could also be in part due to the trigger point for delivery which may not have been reached in some instances and officers would explore the available resources.

CSGP 4.3 - Implementation of projects in South East Devon European Site Mitigation Strategy – A Member referred to the last meeting of the South East Devon Habitat Regulations Executive Committee in April when discussions took place relating to a proposed Visitor Management Plan for Dawlish Warren. The plan would be a valuable resource. The Interim Head of Commercial Services Tony Watson advised that officers would be investigating all options available to mitigate the impact on the nature reserve.

CSHAH 5.8 - Working days list due to sickness absence average per employee - The Human Resources and Organisational Development Manager, Gloria Lloyd attended the meeting and confirmed that this PI had undergone rigorous analysis. An exercise collating information relating to actions based on activity, benchmarking with other local authorities as well as case studies had been carried out. The analysis and benchmarking showed that the 18 year trend of negative reporting was in fact incorrect. It was deemed important to acknowledge this and celebrate the changes made to reflect correct data recording. National statistics showed that the level of attendance should not fall below 96%, and when the attendance rate for Teignbridge District Council was recalculated, taking account of annual leave and bank holidays, the figure rose to 97.3%. It was also felt that by the very nature of the role, data relating to staff absences working in the Recycling and Waste teams should be separated. It was noted that an update would be made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 10 September.

CSZH 3.4- % of waste recycled and composted from our own operations and buildings - The Business Improvement Officer confirmed that the actual recycling rate was 37.2% and that the target had been revised to 40% for this year and 45% for 2019/20.

CSZH 1.1-1.3 - Gas/Electricity and Water Utilities - In response to a Member's comment it was agreed to set targets for all three performance indicators.

CSWE 6.4 - Cost of management as a % of total cost service - The Chairman sought clarification in relation to the identified figure of £126.03. The Finance Officer, Steve Wotton advised that the note related to Quarter 3 and at that time the year-end estimate was £126.03. The actual year-end figure of £100.38 was lower due to a large additional income sum received very late in the financial year.

CSWE 6.5 - Number of full-time equivalent staff - A Member enquired about the specific reasons for the increase of 30 full-time staff and if that figure related to one department or was across the Council. The HR and OD Manager confirmed that the fluctuation in staff was seasonal and included both full-time and part-time employees. It was proposed that a change of measurement to the average FTE/year rather than the number on 31 March was made each year. A full explanation for the increase would be provided in the HR report to Members at the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10 September.

Appendix B

The Business Improvement Officer referred to the detail for the proposed PI targets from 2018/19 to 2021/22 and the rationale behind the figures as set out in Appendix B. Members also raised a number of issues relating to the following:-

CSCLS 5.1 - Household waste recycled and composted - A Member inquired about the rationale for a 60% target and then the subsequent year's target was reduced to 56%. The Business Improvement Officer undertook to contact the Waste and Cleansing Manager, Chris Braines to review the target.

CSCLS 5.3- Residual waste per household - The Member sought clarification of a similar anomaly and a lower figure in the following year. The target would be similarly reviewed.

CSCLS 7.1 - % of monitored sites not meeting the air quality standard for nitrogen dioxide - A Member referred to the target and enquired about data to track any improvements following the opening of the new South Devon Highway. He was concerned about the level of monitoring of the air-quality and requested the Environmental Protection Manager to provide further information.

CCLMUG 4.2 - Proportion of commuters by non car modes from the survey of new dwellings - A Member referred to the proportion of commuters and it was noted that the data needs to be reviewed. A request would be made to the Business Manager Development Management, Nick Davies to provide the information.

CSZH 1.1-1.3 - Gas, Electricity and Water consumption- The Chairman referred to the previous reference to this and lack of target. He felt that was a real potential for some savings to be made in respect of these utilities. A target would have to be identified to establish if this was possible and the Interim Head of Commercial Services would speak to the Environmental Protection Manager. However, he was pleased to report that the accommodation at the Council offices were now at maximum capacity to ensure a meaningful target.

Members noted the report.

71. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

Resolved - The Committee noted the Executive Forward Plan.

72. WORK PROGRAMME

It was noted that the Chairman would liaise with officers to ensure there were items for future meetings. A request had been received from a Member for a discussion on Park Home legislation and the most appropriate contact would be identified to bring a report forward.

Resolved - The Work Programme for the remainder of the year was noted.

Cllr Mike Haines
Chairman