

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PLACES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 16 May 2018.

P R E S E N T

Councillor S Bull (in the Chair)

Councillors K S Athwal, J Coyle (substitute Member), L Grooby, T Kemp and P Makin.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors E Atkins, J Dixon and K Gillott

11/18 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12/18 **MATTERS ARISING – Review of Emergency Planning – Final Report (Minute No.5/18)** The Chairman reported that the Review of Emergency Planning had been approved at the Cabinet meeting on 26 April 2018. He wished to thank all Members and officers involved in the review for the work they had undertaken.

13/18 **DERBYSHIRE TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE - PRESENTATION** Rob Taylour, Assistant Director Trading Standards attended the meeting to provide Members with an overview of the work carried out by the Trading Standards Service.

The Trading Standards Service had responsibility for ensuring that local businesses complied with a wide range of legislation to maintain standards of trading and to protect local consumers. Mr Taylour reported on various areas of work the Service were involved in including animal health and welfare, fair trading, food and feed, safety and weights and measures.

Mr Taylour highlighted Trading Standards achievements against the 2017-18 Service Plan, which included the action taken against rogue traders and an update on the Derbyshire Trusted Trader Scheme. Members were also informed that the Service would be undergoing a review.

The Chairman thanked Mr Taylour for a most informative presentation.

14/18 **GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL AUTHORITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES** The Communities and Local Government Select Committee had published its report on the Effectiveness of Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees on 11 December 2017. The

inquiry was initially launched in January 2017 but was delayed due to the dissolution of Parliament and the General Election. The inquiry was relaunched in September 2017, taking account of the wealth of written evidence provided by councils, officers, members and stakeholders prior to the election, along with other evidence gathered from September 2017 onwards.

The full report of the Select Committee and the recommended revisions to Government guidance on Scrutiny Committees was presented.

The Government had responded to the Select Committee report in March 2018, and details on the recommendations it had accepted, and those it did not were highlighted. The report was welcomed by Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED to (1) note the report of the Communities and Local Government Select Committee on the Effectiveness of Local Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Government's response: and

(2) note that revised scrutiny guidance will be issued by the Government in the light of the Select Committee report and that the County Council will be required to review its Scrutiny function, as appropriate, on the publication of the revised guidance.

15/18 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP – ORAL UPDATE Councillor Peter Makin provided the Committee with an update on the work undertaken by the Flood Risk Management Working Group.

One area that was highlighted was Flood Warden Schemes which was an initiative developed by the Flood Risk Management team and Emergency Planning team. A Flood Warden was essentially a volunteer who would liaise with the Local Authorities and organisations associated with flooding. This work was invaluable and it was an aim to promote and expand this scheme.

A further update on the progress of the working group would be given at the next meeting.

16/18 WORK PROGRAMME 2018-19 RESOLVED (1) to approve the work programme for 2018-19 as follows:-

18 July 2018	Countryside Services – Richard Taylor Derbyshire Cycle Plan – Jim Seymour
13 Sept 2018	Cabinet Member Portfolio update – Councillor S Spencer Emergency Planning Review – progress against action plan
5 March 2019	Cabinet Member Portfolio update – Councillor B Lewis Tourism in Derbyshire

(2) that Members give consideration to agenda items for the meeting on 28 November 2018.

17/18 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining item on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of exempt information or confidential information.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2018 (contains exempt information).

18/18 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the Exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.