

COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday 20th September 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Butterworth (Chair); Councillors Susan Emmott, Hartley, Malcolm, O'Neill, O'Rourke, Stott, Wazir, Winkler and Zaheer

OFFICERS: Mark Dalzell and Caroline Abbott (Neighbourhoods Directorate), Nicola Rogers (Public Health and Wellbeing Directorate) and Alison James (Resources Directorate)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor West

APOLOGIES

18 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor West.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

19 In accordance with the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Voting Co-Opted Members, Councillor Zaheer declared an interest in the Agenda item Food and Feed Service Plan and left the room during consideration of the item.

URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

20 There were no urgent items of business.

ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

21 There were no items of business which required the exclusion of the public and press.

MINUTES

22 **DECIDED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 19th July 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

ROCHDALE SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

23 The Head of Neighbourhood Services received a presentation on the Rochdale Strategic Assessment 2017. The aims of the assessment included:-

- A refresh of the Rochdale Community Safety Partnership strategic priorities;
- To provide greater understanding of longer term threat and risk to Rochdale communities;
- Not be a comprehensive review but a number of broad themes to be identified for strategic analysis.

The themes for the Strategic Assessment were:-

- Tackling frequent/ impactful crime;
- Protecting vulnerable people;
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Alcohol and drug related crime;

- Offender Profile;
- Tackling serious and organised crime;
- Child Sexual Exploitation;
- Community tensions and cohesion;
- Rochdale's Town Centres;

The Committee made comments in relation to the following areas and asked for these to be fed into the Strategic Assessment process:-

- The inclusion of fraud and domestic violence;
- Unreported crime, for example, crime reported online in forums such as Facebook but not actually reported to the Police;
- The difficulties faced by residents in reporting issues to the 101 telephone number;

The Committee agreed that they would like to invite the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Beverley Hughes to a future meeting to further discuss police and crime matters.

DECIDED – that the update on the Rochdale Strategic Assessment 2017 be noted.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2016/17 REGISTER PROVIDERS

24 The Committee scrutinised the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which provided Members with an update on the performance of the Borough's Register Provider (RP) Partners for 2016/17.

The Committee were advised that there were currently 14 Registered Providers who managed 20,948 properties across the Borough with RBH being the biggest stock holder with 63% of the stock. Riverside and Guinness were the 2nd biggest with 10% each, followed by St Vincent's with 5%.

The report provided an update on affordable housing development, affordable rent conversions, disposals, demolitions, welfare reform, the Housing Register, health partnership, property and neighbourhood investment, local initiatives and the Greater Manchester Memorandum of Understanding.

The main Registered Providers operating in the Borough, seven in total, were all members of the Rochdale Strategic Housing Partnership (RSHP). The seven RPs were Contour Homes, Great Places Housing Group, Guinness Partnership, Regenda Group, Riverside Group, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing and St Vincent's Housing Association

The RSHP was the Borough's high level strategic housing group and was established to maximise the contribution of housing towards the Borough's broader objectives and the delivery of targets contained within the Council's and Partner's Strategies.

In addition to the RSHP the main RP partners had come together with the Council to fund the Borough's unique partnership company Rochdale Housing Initiative (RHI). The company, which was formed in 1994, had added value to the work in the Borough through the development of new and innovative projects, the securing of funding for projects, the provision of a link between

the RPs and other organisations within the Borough and the delivery of the Council's Empty Property Programme.

In considering the report, Members of the Committee made some comments about concerns they had with the performance of Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RBH).

DECIDED – That the Performance Monitoring 2016/2017 Registered Housing Providers report be noted.

FOOD AND FEED SERVICE PLAN 2017- 18

25 The Committee scrutinised the report of the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing which presented the Council's Food and Feed Service Plan for the current year. The report identified the scope and the demands on the Service together with the details of last year's performance and the way the Service proposed to continue to meet the Food Standards Agency's mandatory guidance on inspection frequency. The report also proposed the introduction of two new discretionary fees and charges in relation to two aspects of food hygiene matters.

Members also considered a RAG rated table of performance measures related to the Food and Feed Service Plan.

DECIDED – that (1) the Food and Feed Service Plan for 2017/18 be noted. (2) that the Public Protection Team be thanked for their work in raising the performance relating to the Food and Feed Service Plan.

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

26 **DECIDED – that consideration of the Playing Pitch Strategy be deferred.**

COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

27 The Committee considered the updated Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2017/18.

The Chair indicated that the Committee would establish two, short life task and finish study groups relating to Renewable Energy and New Housing Developments (specifically Junction 19 of the M62 proposed developments) and Online Safety for Children and Young People.

DECIDED – (1) that the Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2017/18 be noted. (2) that two, short life task and finish study groups be established relating to Renewable Energy and New Housing Developments (specifically the Junction 19 of the M62 proposed developments) and Online Safety for Children and Young People.