

**CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
(WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND  
ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)**

**NOTES OF AN INQUORATE MEETING**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**PRESENT:** Councillor O'Neill (Vice Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the Chair); Councillors Davidson (Substituting for Councillor Bamford), Hartley and Wardle (Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee), Councillor Beswick, Councillor Burke, Councillor Susan Emmott Councillor Meredith (Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

**OFFICERS:** Mark Widdup (Director of Neighbourhoods), Andrew Storey, Alan Webster and Chris Woods (Neighbourhoods Directorate), Julie Murphy and Alison James (Resources Directorate)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Neil Emmott (Portfolio Holder for Environment) Councillor Rush.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Sultan Ali, Councillor Bamford, Councillor Boriss, Councillor Joinson, Councillor Mir, Councillor Robinson and Councillor Smith (Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee) Councillor Kelly, Councillor Stott, Councillor West, Councillor Peter Williams and Councillor Winkler (Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

91 There were no declarations of interest.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

92 **It was noted** that that the press and public should be excluded from the remaining part of the meeting pursuant to Section 100(A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

**HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE**

93 A report of the Director of Neighbourhoods relating to the Highway Maintenance Service Contract for 2020 onwards was presented to Members.

The current Contract delivered the following highway services:

- Reactive/Routine Highway Repairs;
- Planned Maintenance Works;
- Drainage Maintenance;
- Winter Maintenance;
- Out of Hours Call Out.

This report set out the delivery options available to implement at the end of the current contract end date.

Members were asked to consider the available options described in the report to ensure the continuation of a highways maintenance service beyond the contractual end date of 31 March 2020.

The Chair of the Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Meredith, informed Members that the Committee had recently approved the recommendations of the Highways Study Group and that this included that the Study Group was generally happy with the performance of the Highways Contract, but had some concerns with the performance indicators not being achieved in relation to pot holes filled within the required time.

The Portfolio Holder for Environment, Councillor Neil Emmott, addressed Members stating that he was present to receive any comments that Members had in relation to the Highway Maintenance Contract and that he would take these forward on behalf of Members.

Members were able to provide details of and ask questions in relation to instances of good and bad practice with the operation of the current contract, with the main area of concern being around the repairs undertaken to pot holes.

The Director of Neighbourhoods informed Members that the concerns raised would be taken into account when considering the options relating to the Highway Maintenance Service Contract for 2020 onwards.

**It was noted** that there was a meeting taking place the following week which would include the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Chair of the Communities Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Senior Council Officers and representatives from Balfour Beatty, the current contractor, at which the concerns of Members would be raised. Following the meeting, a decision on how to proceed would be taken.