
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE CONNAUGHT ROOM,
TOWN HALL, CLACTON-ON-SEA**

Present: Councillors Steady (Chairman), Wood (Vice-Chairman), Bucke, Caines, R Callender, Challinor, Coley and Griffiths.

In Attendance: Finance and Procurement Manager (Richard Barrett), Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney), Human Resources and Business Manager (Anastasia Simpson), Business Support Manager (Katie Wilkins) and Democratic Services Officer (Michael Pingram).

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Nicholls with Councillor Griffiths substituting.

34. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 4 November 2014, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to in Minute 31 at the end of paragraph two, the figure of £540,000 being amended to read £54,000.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

36. PERFORMANCE REPORT – QUARTER TWO 2014 (JULY 2014 – SEPTEMBER 2014)

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which informed the Committee of the performance of the Council during the period July to September 2014.

The Council's Human Resources and Business Manager (Anastasia Simpson) informed the Committee that of the 28 indicators and projects reported, 24 (86%) were on or above their respective target, whilst four (14%), were not currently in line with expected performance. She explained that since the quarter one report a number of targets which had previously been behind target were now on target, including improvements to the Weeley Crematorium, non-domestic rates collection, fly tipping and major planning applications. She then gave an explanation and update on each of the four under-performing indicators and targets.

With regards to Financial Self-Sufficiency, she explained that it was largely behind target because of ongoing refurbishment work to Dovercourt Swimming Pool but that now it had reopened, it was expected to be on target by the end of the performance period.

She further informed Members that, with regards to recycling rates the figures were still a reflection of a countywide and national issue and that the pilot garden waste collection service that had started in May 2014 was proving very popular with 2,300 customers. It was then agreed that a Recycling Officer would be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to provide further information.

The Council's Human Resources and Business Manager then explained that, although the Waste Tonnage Collected figure was behind target, Tendring had the lowest waste

per household in Essex and said that the increase in overall waste tonnage could be linked to an upturn in the economy and consumer spending.

She then explained that New Homes Completions being behind target reflected a national issue with the housing market. A Member asked if the new Blenheim Gate development in Clacton-on-Sea had been accounted for in those figures and the Human Resources and Business Manager said that she would ask the Planning Department for further information.

It was drawn to Members attention that in future, Quarterly Performance Reports may be presented to Cabinet prior to presentation at the Corporate Management Committee to enable benchmarking to take place across Essex and nationally. Members requested that if information was to be presented to Cabinet first, Members of the Corporate Management Committee should receive a copy of the information at the same time as Cabinet.

During discussion the Committee requested further information on complaints made to the Council and asked for an update on the Credit Union Review.

Following further discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the contents of the report be noted.

37. CORPORATE BUDGET MONITORING 2014/15 SECOND QUARTER

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which provided the Committee with an overview of the Council's actual financial position against the budget, as at the end of September 2014.

The Council's Finance and Procurement Manager explained the report in more detail and said that it was a similar story to the previous quarter. He explained that there was a number of income budgets behind profile, including recycling credits but activities to increase recycling continued within the service such as promotional work, which may help achieve budgeted income levels in 2015. He did also acknowledge that there were income budgets ahead of profile, including planning fee income which had continued to increase ahead of budget and he also talked about the Council's treasury activity and its context within the wider economy.

During discussions the Committee sought clarification on why the Council was borrowing money for housing development if it was still required to make savings. The Council's Finance and Procurement Manager said that associated business cases would need to demonstrate the affordability of such schemes without adding pressure to existing budgets.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the contents of the report be noted.

38. CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – INFORMAL WORKSHOP OF 20 OCTOBER 2014: FEEDBACK ON OUTCOMES

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which provided the Committee with details of the outcomes that had arisen from the informal workshop held on 20 October 2014 and the proposals of how to progress those as part of the Council's future budget-setting process.

The Council's Democratic Services Manager explained that the session had focussed on four key questions in order to maximise input to the workshop and that there were plans to hold a further session in January 2015 to take the initiative forward.

During discussions the Committee considered ideas including the potential savings of all Members having a tablet device in order to reduce on-going postage costs and a Festival within Tendring that could raise valuable income.

39. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee noted the new items relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee contained in Forward Plan No.158.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.54 p.m.

Chairman