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Community Leadership Overview and
Scrutiny Committee

3 July 2023

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,
HELD ON MONDAY, 3RD JULY, 2023 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA,
CO15 1SE**

Present:	Councillors Steady (Chairman), Barrett (Vice-Chairman), Codling, Davidson, Doyle, Griffiths, Guglielmi, McWilliams and Oxley
In Attendance:	Keith Simmons (Head of Democratic Services and Elections), Keith Durrant (Committee Services Officer) and Bethany Jones (Committee Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ferguson (substituted by Councillor Guglielmi).

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday 7 March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by Councillors in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting.

4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 38

On this occasion no Councillor had submitted notice of a question.

5. WORK PROGRAMMING INCLUDING MONITORING OF PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS AND SCRUTINY OF FORTHCOMING DECISIONS

The Committee heard an update on the Work Programme item from the Head of Democratic Services and Elections (Keith Simmons).

The Work Programme

In considering the Work Programme of enquiries, the Committee regarded the Corporate Plan 2020-24 and the themes of that Corporate Plan were:

- Delivering High Quality Services
- Building Sustainable Communities
- Strong Finances and Governance
- A Growing and Inclusive Economy
- Community Leadership through Partnerships

The Committee was made aware that the Corporate Plan for 2024-28 was currently being worked on and provisions would have to be reviewed once the new Plan was adopted.

An invitation had been sent to Councillors on 16 May 2023 asking for their input into the development of both Overview and Scrutiny Committees Work Programmes.

Responses were received from Councillors that included the following suggestions in relation to this Committee:

- Essex Highways – The state of roads and pavements
- Essex Highways- Public right of ways
- Education – SEND provision

A meeting with the Chairman of the Committee was held on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at which time the suggestions set out in Appendix D were put forward.

A meeting of the Committees Chairman with the Chairman of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Councils Leader and their Deputy Leader was held on 20 June 2023 by virtue of the Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol of the Council.

The Committee agreed upon the following items to be included in its draft Work Programme 2023/24 and submitted to Full Council for consideration (each item included the more detailed scope of the enquiries).

- Active Essex/Sport England Local Delivery Pilot – Off agenda briefing note
- Policy on Events on Council Land
- Crime and Disorder
- School Age Education provision – Task and Finish
- NHS Dentistry
- Mainstream and community transport provision -Task and Finish Group
- Health Inequalities – Off Agenda Briefing Note
- On Street Parking Arrangements in the District – January Committee

After a short debate the Committee **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the Committees Work Programme (as set out at Appendix D) to the report be approved and recommended to Council on 11 July 2023 for adoption.
- b) To authorise officers subject to the recommendation in a) above being appropriate, in consultation with the Committee Chairman, to formally constitute and appoint members to a Task and Finish Group to undertake the overview and scrutiny enquiry into 'Council Enforcement Arrangements'.

The Committee discussed the value of inviting to each of the next meeting of the Committee, the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships to address it on the focus for their Portfolio. The suggestion gained broad agreement from the Members of the Committee. In the debate on this item the opportunity to obtain update on "County Lines" (and measures to disrupt them) as part of the Committees consideration of crime and

disorder. The Committee members considered that the opportunity to visit the Police Station as part of the preparation for the Crime and Disorder enquiry should be pursued.

In respect of the enquiry into school aged education provision, there may be a need to consider interim reports around mental health and absenteeism ahead of the finalised report. The opportunity for this enquiry to look at the experience of the Great Bently School Mental Health Hub regulation in the area of home schooling and the position concerning “forgotten” children was commented upon.

The Chairman explained the importance for all enquires (including those from Task and Finish Groups) to identify strong evidence-based recommendations.

The Committee was reminded of the schooling of its meeting on 11 January 2024 consider financing in respect of Partnerships (including recovery and providing grants).

The Committee **NOTED** the remainder of the report.

6. JOINT ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT

The Committee was presented with Draft Annual Scrutiny Report as it related to work undertaken by this Committee during the year 2022/23.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Scrutiny Report insofar as it related to the work of this Committee in 2022/23 and authorise its submission to Council.

7. POSSIBLE CHANGE TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Head of Democratic Services and Elections asked the Committee to consider the value of the meeting of the Committee that was scheduled for 18 July 2023 as Full Council was to be held on 11 July 2023.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to cancel this meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.13 pm

Chairman

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