

**CORPORATE, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Meeting: 13 April 2021
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Lisa Smart (Chair) in the chair; Councillor John McGahan (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Malcolm Allan, Steve Gribbon, Carole McCann, Iain Roberts, Charlie Stewart,
Wendy Wild and Matt Wynne.

1. HRH THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Chair referred to the recent death of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Members of the Scrutiny Committee and Officers observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to his memory.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 26 January 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and Officers were invited to declare any interests which they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.

The following interests were declared:-

Personal Interests

Councillors

Interest

Malcolm Allan, Steve
Gribbon, Lisa Smart
and Matt Wynne

Agenda item 8 'Active Communities: CIC
Establishment Update' as members of Life Leisure.

Malcolm Allan

Agenda Item 6 'Stockport Stations Alliance' as a
volunteer for the Friends of Rose Hill Station.

Wendy Wild

Agenda Item 5 'Scrutiny Review: The Council's
Relationship with Health Partners – Final Report' as
her husband is a public Governor of Stockport NHS
Foundation Trust.

4. CALL-IN

There were no call-in items to consider.

5. 2020/21 QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITORING UPDATE

The Corporate Director (Corporate and Support Services) and Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing a summary of the Quarter 3 revenue forecast outturn including an update on the Dedicated Schools Grant, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Collection Fund and updates to the Capital Programme. The report had been submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 February 2021.

The Cabinet Member for Resources, Commissioning and Governance (Councillor Tom McGee) attended the meeting to respond to questions from the Scrutiny Committee.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- A Member enquired how the Council's income in the overall balances had been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The deficit had mainly been offset by Covid-19 grants received from the Government totalling £24.421m, reducing the Council's revenue budget deficit to £0.344m.
- Clarification was provided that appropriations from and to Reserves had enabled the budget to remain unaltered.
- Concern was expressed that the Council was carrying forward a deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant of £1.302m from 2019/20 which would be added to this year's DSG deficit. A formal budget recovery plan had not been constructed at this point due to the DSG Review not coming to any firm conclusions or recommendations until June 2021 so as not to pre-judge the consultation process.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. SCRUTINY REVIEW: THE COUNCIL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HEALTH PARTNERS - FINAL REPORT

The Lead Councillor, Councillor Carole McCann, submitted the final report (copies of which had been circulated) outlining the findings and recommendations of the joint Scrutiny Review Panel on the Council's Relationship with its Health Partners.

The Scrutiny Review had been commissioned by this Scrutiny Committee and the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee. The Panel had considered a range of information from health partners, notably from the Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership and Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group, alongside proposals for Integrated Care Systems contained within the recent Health and Care White Paper.

The Final Report had been agreed at the final Review Panel Meeting on 25 March 2021.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- Reference was made to the section of the report highlighting Early Years as an example of good practice in how decisions were made and a Member felt that this could be highlighted in the recommendations.
- With regard to recommendation 1 requesting that data sharing and information governance arrangements be reviewed across partners, it was acknowledged that the confidentiality and security of people's personal data was likely to be a barrier.

- Support was given to the strengthening of the approach identified in recommendation 3 – ie a ‘named individual or keyworker’ approach which put the resident first

RESOLVED – That the draft Final Report be approved for submission to the Cabinet.

7. STOCKPORT STATIONS ALLIANCE

A representative of the Corporate Director (Place) and Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out detailing of the exploration of four rail stations in Stockport as part of the Stockport Stations Alliance programme under One Public Estate (OPE) 6. The proposals were at an early stage, but it was important that each of the opportunities were explored in detail to maximise the benefit to the Council and residents.

The Cabinet Member for Resources, Commissioning and Governance (Councillor Tom McGee) attended the meeting to respond to questions from the Scrutiny Committee.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- Members enquired what criteria was used to choose the particular stations, given that no firm view had been taken as to what developments would take place.
- Nothing had been decided with regard to what development would take place and discussions were at a very early stage with the Local Planning Authority.
- Concern was expressed that local Members had been informed of the proposals from a source other than the Council.
- It was important to see how the proposals fitted in with the Greater Manchester Rail Prospectus.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That this Scrutiny Committee recommends that the Cabinet engages with members of the public at an early stage of the process.

8. GREATER MANCHESTER BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND

A representative of the Corporate Director (Place) submitted a joint report with the Corporate Director (Corporate and Support Services) and Deputy Chief Executive (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on the Greater Manchester Brownfield Housing Fund and on those projects that had been successfully allocated funding so far.

The Cabinet Member for Resources, Commissioning and Governance (Councillor Tom McGee) attended the meeting to respond to questions from the Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9. ACTIVE COMMUNITIES: CIC ESTABLISHMENT UPDATE

A representative of the Corporate Director (Place) and Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) which provided an interim update report on

the establishment of Stockport Active Community Interest Company (C.I.C) and progress towards transitioning leisure and active communities services into the new organisation.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- The Scrutiny Committee thanked the Cabinet for taking note of its previous comments.
- Members wished to see an enhanced level of scrutiny of the finance and governance of the C.I.C than had taken place with the Board of Life Leisure.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

10. AGENDA PLANNING

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal & Democratic Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out the planned agenda items for the Scrutiny Committee's next meeting and any Forward Plan items.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That next year's Scrutiny Committee be recommended to consider examining the issue of Neighbourhood Working.

(3) That the new Portfolio Agreements be submitted as soon as possible to the Scrutiny Committee in the new Municipal Year.

The meeting closed at 7.10 pm