

At a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber, Allerdale House on Friday 21 February 2020 at 1.30 pm

Members

Councillor Nicky Cockburn	Councillor Iain Greaney (Co-Chair)
Councillor Michael Heaslip	Councillor John Crouch
Councillor Adrian Kirkbride	Councillor Daniel Horsley
	Councillor Carni McCarron-Holmes

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Alan Pitcher, Councillor Carmel Bell, Councillor Malcolm Grainger, Councillor Joe Holliday and Councillor Michael Little

Staff Present

B Carlin, A FitzGerald, A Gilbert, R Griffin, I Hinde, J Irving, L Jardine and E Ridings

Also Present

Councillor J Farebrother and Councillor E Lynch

388. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2020 were signed as a correct record.

389. Declaration of Interests

None declared

390. Questions

None received

391. Public Participation

None received

392. To consider the report of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group

Councillors Farebrother, Cockburn and Lynch, supported by the Policy Manager (Climate Change and Nuclear) presented the report of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group.

On 25 September 2019, Allerdale Borough Council agreed a motion relating to climate change and made a specific commitment to reducing carbon emissions. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee was requested to consider how Council could respond to the commitments in the motion and a Task and Finish Group (TFG) was set up to lead this work. The TFG met several times and held a workshop for external stakeholders. The group had also considered the petition

presented to the Council on 11 December 2019, which was integrated into its consideration of the motion.

As part of its work, the TFG received presentations on several different topics, including the Council's Local Plan and Cumbria's Joint Health Strategy. It also considered information from other local authorities (e.g. Stroud District Council and South Lakes District Council), as well as other bodies such as Friends of the Earth and Zero Carbon Britain.

The report made 18 recommendations to the committee (included in the report).

Debate then ensued in relation to policy and decision making and members were advised of the LGA climate change toolkit.

Councillor Heaslip then moved the motion to approve the 18 recommendations.

The motion to approve was seconded by Councillor Horsley.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the 18 recommendations, 7 voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

The motion was carried.

393. Strategic Commissioning and Procurement Strategy

The Head of Projects and Programmes presented the draft Strategic Commissioning and Procurement strategy to members and sought feedback before the final draft is presented to the Executive Committee (18 March 2020).

Members were advised that the new strategy was a refresh of existing procurement and commissioning policies with focus on strategy, resilience, climate and social value and with the aim of increasing local spending. The new strategy also aims to tackle modern slavery and human exploitation. Members were advised that all feedback would be considered and where applicable, incorporated into the final strategy document.

Members asked questions in relation to the third sector, community/supplier engagement and the tender process.

Officers then clarified the tender process and explained how feedback following an unsuccessful tender is currently provided back to suppliers. It was also explained that the council regularly consults with the Chamber of Commerce and local suppliers, including those who supply the council, those who have been unsuccessful in the tender process and suppliers that chose not to apply.

Debate then ensued in relation to compulsory competitive tendering and concerns were raised over the specifications that are provided to suppliers.

Members then noted the contents of the report.

394. Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20

The Policy Manager (Corporate, Performance and Information) introduced the Quarter 3 performance report for 2019/20 and provided an overview of the report including key projects and activities, corporate KPIs and strategic risks.

Members were informed that most of the activities/projects were performing as expected. The exception as in quarter 2, being delays with the Arcus project and the ongoing establishment of a new delivery model for waste services. It was also explained that due to resourcing issues some 'home with multiple occupancy' (HMO) licences may not be up to date.

Members asked questions in relation to the Arcus project and HMOs and expressed concerns with the new waste contract which was showing on the report with the Red 'RAG Status' which is defined as 'having significant concerns over achieving outputs or there is serious slippage in the timetable or there are major issues to rectify'. Officers provided assurance to members that the project is on track for successful implementation.

Debate then moved to assets and questions were raised from Councillor Heaslip in relation to Council owed assets and the Councils use of its properties. The Head of Programme and Project explained that the Capital Strategy 2020/21 which will include the full asset register which shows the current status and future plans.

Members noted the contents of the report.

395. Forward Plan

Members noted the contents of the forward plan.

396. Work Programme and Outcomes Monitoring

Members were advised that an invite had been issued to all the representatives of outside scrutiny bodies and this will be included as an item for the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members then discussed potential items to be included in the 2020/21 work programme.

Members noted the contents of the work programme.

397. Task and Finish Group/Working Group Updates

Updates were provided to members of the work of the task and finish groups

- Budget group – the group will meet again once the budget has been approved.

- Procurement Group – the group are due to meet with officers following receipt of the lessons learnt report, this however may be delayed due to the commercial sensitivity of the report.
- Future Waste Management Group – the group is due to meet with officers on 26 February 2020 and the implementation of the LATCO is on track.
- Climate Change Group – Report presented earlier in the meeting; all 18 recommendations approved.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm