

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on Monday 28 January 2019 at 1.00 pm at Ground Floor, Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Williams (Chair)
Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Humaira Ali
Councillor Peter Babudu
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Helen Dennis
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Alice Macdonald
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Jason Ochere
Martin Brecknell

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Rebecca Lury
Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Leo Pollak
Councillor Johnson Situ
Councillor Kieron Williams

OFFICER SUPPORT: Duncan Whitfield - Strategic Director of Finance and Governance
Michael Scorer – Strategic Director of Housing & Modernisation
Kevin Fenton - Strategic Director, Place and Wellbeing
Shelley Burke – Head of Overview & Scrutiny
Norman Coombe - Head of Corporate Team

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tom Flynn.

VIDEO LINKS OF THE MEETING

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inCu0fihb_Q

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7flcQPXNXDg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2MfzNs8IXA&index=33&list=PLOUye1bJv3Ur2qLE3D5dYUyyl8t_77N4r&t=0s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvyfFmnAzkc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pb1v5k2OKul>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=la33IE04Nhg>

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

2.1 There were none.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

3.1 There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

4. CABINET CONSULTATION WITH SCRUTINY ON THE BUDGET 2019/20 (TIMETABLE)

4.1 Noted.

5. POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY 2019-20

5.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee thanked cabinet members for attending and presenting the 2019/20 budget and made the following recommendations:

RESOLVED:

1. That Overview & Scrutiny Committee should receive a report on the impact to service users of the reviews of special guardianship orders and care packages.
2. That Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomes the protection of the community safety budget and recommends that if the scheme for local authority purchasing of police officers is withdrawn, the council should consider how to make best use of the available budget to support the work of the community safety team.
3. That a robust monitoring system is put in place in respect of changes to library opening hours so that the equalities impact may be analysed – this should be reported to Overview & Scrutiny Committee 6 months after implementation.
4. That income raised from environmental measures in the budget are fully aligned with the council's green policies and are communicated to residents in a manner

that promotes positive environmental behaviour.

5. That Overview and Scrutiny Committee welcomes the efficiency saving in respect of LED lighting in the council's Tooley Street office and asks the cabinet member to explore whether similar measures can be brought forward across other council buildings.
6. That Overview & Scrutiny Committee supports the rationale for a one year budget for the coming year and asks the cabinet to consider refreshing the council's budget principles in preparation for the next budget cycle in order to take account of the economic context in which the council is operating. The committee calls on the council to take every opportunity for lobbying and advocacy around local government finance.
7. That Overview and Scrutiny Committee requests an illustrative outline of how the Brexit support fund (budget reference 424) might be spent, supported by an explanation of the underpinning assumptions and risk profiles.
8. That Overview and Scrutiny Committee should receive the equality impact assessment for the budget and this should be part of the agenda papers in future.

Requests for information

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee requests:

1. Data on numbers of primary school pupils eligible for free school meals but not enrolled in the national scheme.
2. Information about the projected income from the leisure centres contract.

6. WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 Noted.

Meeting ended at 6.25 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: