

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present: Councillor S Dannheimer, Chair

Councillors: T J Marsh
H L Crosby
R D MacRae
A W G A Stockwell
C M Tideswell
S Webb
E Winfield
K Woodhead
L A Ball BEM (Substitute for J M Owen)
A Kingdon (Substitute for H Land)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Williamson, K Harlow, H Land and J M Owen

6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

7 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2024 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

8 **CONSIDERATION OF CALL - IN**

There were no call-ins to be considered.

9 **SPOTLIGHT REVIEW-MARKETS**

The Committee noted the update provided on the Spotlight Review on Markets and welcomed a further update and presentation at the November meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members discussed the issues they found with markets and the impacts of town centres locations, stall holders already committed to other markets and challenges the town centres were facing with footfall. Benefits of holding one off events and street food events were recognised as alternatives to regular weekly markets.

10 UPDATE FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Members noted the update from the Leader of the Council of the decision from the recommendations presented to 3 September 2024 Cabinet meeting from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A working group would be arranged shortly and be chaired by the Deputy Leader. This group would meet twice a year. The Leader further discussed the issues with the democratic arrangements with the East Midlands Combined County Authority and requested to the Committee they consider the issues as a scrutiny topic. The Chief Executive had proposed to update all Members of the arrangements at a date to be confirmed and the Committee decided to hold the request until further information was made available.

The Leader felt that the current fines issued for fly tipping offences were very small considering the environmental impact and resources required to clean up and prosecute. He wanted the Committee to consider writing to the Secretary of State for Environment to look at the current environmental legislation and increase the penalties issued. The Committee unanimously agreed to add the item to the work programme and look at scoping the topic within a Working Group. It was proposed that Councillor E Winfield would be Chair and Vice Chair Councillor S Webb. Councillor A W G A Stockwell would also support the group.

RESOLVED to set up a Working Group to scope the topic of Environmental Enforcement fines.

11 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

This item was deferred until the next meeting due to the Chair of Licensing sending their apologies.

12 WORKING GROUP UPDATE

An update was provided to the Committee from the Chair of the Equality, Inclusivity and Diversity Working Group. Members of the group had visited 5 parks in the Borough and the Portfolio for Environment and Climate Change was also in attendance. The group considered paths, gates, seating and play equipment as part of the review. The report will be presented to the Committee at the next meeting.

13 CABINET WORK PROGRAMME

Members noted the Cabinet Work Programme.

14 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee reviewed the current work programme and agreed that some of the items on the plan were no longer relevant. Members agreed for the Disabled Facilities Grants, Homes for Life and Resident Engagement Review to be removed.

Members agreed for Councillor T Marsh suggestion to add Council Agenda's to the work programme to review the content and size of the agenda's, impact on resources

and to conduct an evaluation from Members. A working group would be Chaired by Councillor T Marshall and Vice Chair, Councillor R D MacRae.

Councillor E Winfield expressed an interest on the Child Poverty topic, that was already committed on the work programme. It was recommended that delegation to the Chair and Vice Chairs to timetable the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee going forward with consideration of resource provided by the Democratic team to the Committee.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. the work programme be approved with Council Agenda's and Environmental Enforcement Fines being added and to remove Disabled Facilities Grants, Homes for Life, and Resident Engagement Review.**
- 2. to delegate to the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to timetable the work programme going forward.**
- 3. The Chief Executive give a presentation to all Members of the Council of the East Midlands Combined County Authority Governance Arrangements before a decision is made to add the request from the Leader of the Council to the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.**