

Crawley Borough Council



Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission Monday 26 June 2017 at 7.00pm

Present:

Councillor B A Smith (Chair)
Councillor T G Belben (Vice-Chair)
Councillors M L Ayling, Dr H S Bloom, R G Burgess, C A Cheshire, I T Irvine,
R A Lanzer, T Lunnon, A Pendlington, T Rana and K Sudan

Also in Attendance:

Councillors C Portal Castro, F Guidera, P K Lamb and C J Mullins

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors L Vitler

Officers Present:

Natalie Brahma-Pearl Chief Executive
Heather Girling Democratic Services Officer
Nigel Sheehan Head of Partnership Services
Paul Windust Corporate Accounting & Treasury Services Manager

1. Members' Disclosure of Interests and Whipping Declarations

The following disclosures of interests were made by Members:-

Member	Minute Number	Subject	Type and Nature of Disclosure
Councillor A Pendlington	5	K2 Crawley – Leisure Management Procurement	Personal Interest – Member of K2 Crawley

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The Chair welcomed Councillor Lunnon and Councillor Pendlington onto the Commission. It was also an opportunity to welcome back returning Members and new Vice Chair Councillor Belben, together with new Chief Executive Natalie Brahma-Pearl who was attending her first committee meeting at Crawley.

The minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on [20 March 2017](#) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. Councillor Cheshire commented that she had previously noted her apologies for the March meeting.

3. Public Question Time

No questions from the public were asked.

4. Treasury Management Outturn 2016 - 2017

The Commission considered report [FIN/412](#) with the Leader of the Council and the Corporate Accounting and Treasury Services Manager. The CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management recommends that members be updated on treasury management activities regularly and the report ensured the Council was implementing best practice in accordance with the Code. The report provided details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlighted compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by Members.

During the discussion, the following points were expressed:

- Interest rates were calculated upon completion of the Treasury Management Strategy and Members subsequently updated through the budget monitoring and mid-year review process, along with capital programme updates.
- Clarity was provided on the approval for S106 and CIL funding routes.
- Confirmation that bids for capital should be based on expenditure required to maintain the Council's assets in addition to spend to save projects or spend to earn investment.
- Explanation sought and obtained on the detailed holdings including ratings and maturity.
- Acknowledgement that the primary consideration for the Council was the security of the investment.
- It was noted that external advisors provided information and guidance.
- Members took the opportunity to pass on their thanks to the Corporate Accounting & Treasury Services Manager for the compilation of the report.

RESOLVED

That the Commission supported the recommendations to the Cabinet.

5. K2 Crawley – Leisure Management Procurement

The Commission considered report [HPS/009](#) with the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and the Head of Partnership Services. The report sought agreement for the preferred procurement approach for the K2 Crawley leisure centre management contract.

Members were generally in favour of Recommendations 2.2.1a, b, c and e.

- However there was concern expressed over the length of the contract (featured in recommendation 'a'). As a result the Commission wished to recommend to Cabinet that 10 or 15 years be offered simultaneously, together with the consideration of incentives and break clauses.
- An amendment was proposed by Councillor T Lunnon and seconded by Councillor K Sudan for recommendation 'c', that the supplementary capital estimate should be supported by a business case (similar to the Budget Advisory Group). The amendment upon being put to the Commission was declared to be LOST.
- Support the establishing a cross party working group (recommendation 'd'). However it was felt that the size was currently too small. Following a vote the Cabinet was advised that the Commission wished to recommend the membership of the cross party working group as 4:3.

- Support that bidders would be asked to provide a variant bid compliant with the Living Wage Foundation wage rates.
- Whilst there was appreciation for the car park expansion there was recognition that future lessons should be learned as this is the third extension being sought.
- Various issues regarding current and future car parking arrangements were discussed.
- Acknowledgement that the pricing would be an important aspect to ensure participation costs were not increased. There would be a need to balance maximising income, maintaining the facilities, whilst also improving health and wellbeing.
- Recognition that it was necessary to take account of the contract scope; fitness facilities and café at the Bewbush Centre and Broadfield 3G pitch.
- Discussions were held over the advantages and disadvantages of the capital investment costs.
- Clarity sought and obtained over the evaluation and monitoring of the contract.
- Support for further investigation for incentives for Crawley residents (an outcome from the Crawley Leisure Card Scrutiny Panel).

RESOLVED

That the Commission supported the majority of the recommendations whilst wishing the Cabinet noted the proposed amendments above.

6. Appointments

RESOLVED

That the Commission endorsed the following appointments:

West Sussex Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC)

Councillor K Sudan

West Sussex Joint Scrutiny Steering Group (JSSG)

Councillor B A Smith

West Sussex Joint Scrutiny Housing Provision for Care Leavers Task and Finish Group

Councillor K Sudan

7. Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC)

The next meeting of HASC was scheduled for 7 July 2017. An update would follow at the OSC meeting in September.

8. Scrutiny Review Workshop

The OSC Review Workshop has been arranged for Monday 4 September at 6.00pm. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission would commence at 7.30pm on this date. OSC Members were requested to note the new date and time.

9. Forward Plan – August 2017 and Provisional List of Reports for the following meetings of the Commission

The Commission confirmed the following reports:

September

- Crawley Economic Growth Programme.
- Town Centre Signage & Wayfinding.

October

- Town Centre Heat Network

10. Closure of Meeting

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

B A Smith
Chair