

Crawley Borough Council

**Cabinet**

**Supplementary Agenda**

**Wednesday, 13 March 2019**

*Ana Maria Brown*

Head of Legal, Democracy and HR

**6 Matters referred to the Cabinet and Report from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

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Attached is a copy of the OSC Comments to Cabinet from its meeting on:  
Monday 11 March 2019.

*NOTE: The Leader has agreed that, although this report and information was not available for at least five clear days before the meeting, there are special circumstances justifying its urgent consideration.*



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# Agenda Item 6

**Cabinet  
Wednesday 13 March 2019**

## **Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on Monday 11 March 2019**

**OSC/279**

### **1. Cabinet Agenda Item 7 – Employment and Skills Programme 2019 - 2024**

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

The Commission considered report PES/313 of the Head of Economy and Planning.

During the discussion, the following points were expressed:

- Confirmation was provided regarding Employ Crawley, which operates differently from a private sector agency offering customers one to one support from a single point of contact, advice about finding work and how to secure jobs, direct from employers. It was noted that customers have individual needs and Employ Crawley assists with providing access to unique workshops and courses.
- Support for the Town Centre Skills Academy Status, designated by the Construction Industry Training Board for a range of regeneration schemes across the town centre. The benefits of the partnership arrangements between the council, construction providers and Crawley College were recognised, together with the advantages of Employ Crawley being able to refer residents to the construction opportunities.
- Support for the consolidation of training provision for professional services at Crawley College which would strengthen relationships between the College and town centre employers.
- It was felt it would be beneficial to bring educational establishments and businesses together as this may assist in combatting some silo working.
- Acknowledgement that there was a limited budget available to deliver the programme and this was a long term challenge. It was paramount to deliver essential and achievable projects with existing funds.
- There was strong support for both the successful STEMfest programme and the Big Bang fair.
- It was noted it would be imperative that each aspect of the programme should be measured to gauge its progress including successes and failures.
- Full support for the scheme, however it was suggested that it would be beneficial for the Commission to receive an annual progress report.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Commission agreed to fully support the recommendations to the Cabinet.

### **2. Cabinet Agenda Item 8 – Social Mobility Scrutiny Panel Final Report**

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

The Commission considered report OSC/276 of the Chair of the Social Mobility Scrutiny Panel.

Councillors made the following comments:

- Whilst there was support for the report and appreciation of the Panel's work, it was felt there were certain inconsistencies regarding some of the recommendations in terms of adding value or how these could be measured. To clarify, further information was provided in relation to alternative provision education for pupils up to age 16 who do not attend mainstream school, together the Fair Access and Exclusions Team that provide support. There was a view that investing into an extended service post 16 in the interim would prevent intervention from other services and funding commitments in the future.
- Acknowledgement that a response should be made to the Social Mobility Commission on how the social mobility index could be improved. It was recognised that data can be collected and analysed in multiple ways. Many people succeed in life through different ventures (without going to university for example).
- Support for improved careers advice, especially combined with the Junior Citizen Scheme.
- Recognition that it was about ensuring all individuals were aware of the choices available to them, whilst having the option to fulfil their aspirations, objectives and "life chances" if they so wished.

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- Strong support that “success” was individually determined, and not necessarily linked to monetary value, educational attainment, occupation, living conditions or being socially mobile. In some cases, ‘success’ could simply be linked to “being content”.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Commission agreed to support the recommendations to the Cabinet.

**Councillor Chris Cheshire**  
**Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission**  
**11 March 2019**