

**Cabinet**  
**Wednesday 11 March 2020**

**Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Commission**  
**at its meeting on Monday 9 March 2020**  
**OSC/286**

**1. Cabinet Agenda Item 7 – Three Bridges Station Improvement Final Design**

**Comments and Recommendations**

The Commission considered report PES/338 of the Head of Economy and Planning.

The focus of the debate would be on the evidence Cabinet would be considering, which included:

- the outcome of three separate public consultation exercises undertaken on the Three Bridges Station improvement scheme,
- the Petition signed by over a 1000 individuals entitled ‘No Right Turn - Three Bridges Station Objection’ and presented to and debated by Full Council on 26th February 2020
- the request contained within the Notice of Motion approved by Full Council at its meeting held on 26 February 2020
- all other forecast impacts associated with the Three Bridges Station Improvement Scheme proposals, as detailed within report.

Members made the following comments:

- Recognition that the report included recommendations following the debate at Full Council on 26 February 2020.
- There was a need to ensure the traffic flow movements were not impinged by the station forecourt improvements, particularly along Hazelwick Avenue East and Hazelwick Avenue.
- Clarification was sought and provided over the Section 106 funding as these contributions had been collected specifically for Three Bridges Railway Station improvements from the Forge Wood development.
- Support for the partnership working within the project was welcomed, along with the overall benefits the scheme would provide to the station improvement. It was commented that it would be disappointing if the scheme was blemished by one aspect being the “No Right Hand Turn”. It would be important to find a compromise with regards to this aspect which would benefit all involved.
- It was noted that as part of the recommendations, the Cabinet would be requesting that WSCC take the necessary action to identify a viable alternative option for retaining the right hand turn as the Highways Authority by 1 July 2020.
- It was noted that the recommendations were detailed as it was necessary to enable delivery within a timely framework.
- It was requested that Members be kept up to date as to progress and decisions on the discussions with WSCC over the “No Right Hand Turn”.
- The Commission paid tribute to the officers, in particular the Station Programme Manager, for all their hard work, dedication and partnership work they had undertaken in relation to the project.

The Cabinet is advised that the Commission agreed to unanimously support the recommendations and that the Commission’s comments be conveyed to the Cabinet.

**2. Cabinet Agenda Item 8 – New Directions for Crawley**

**Comments and Recommendations**

The Commission considered report PES/341 of the Head of Economy and Planning.

During the discussion the following comments were made:

- There was recognition that the document assisted in highlighting Crawley’s priorities which may assist when completing funding applications, particularly through the Crawley Growth Programme (CGP).

- Transport and access had been developed around the town at a time when car ownership was much lower. As the population and the business district grew, more road space had been provided to try to keep pace with the growth.
- Support for the increase in cycling and walking throughout the town, together with trials of pure electric buses, the shift towards full zero emissions bus fleet powered by clean hydrogen or installation of solar farms.
- Air quality was raised as a concern and it was noted that the air quality management zone (AQMA) was potentially to be extended from Hazelwick roundabout towards Three Bridges.
- Acknowledgement that it was an ambitious document and the collaborative partnership approaches with various organisations and groups was welcomed. Particularly given the size of the challenge, which included cost and behaviour change. There may be a need to incentivise the modal shift for example Metrobus trial travel and promote the advantages, making the change easily accessible, free wi-fi on buses and Superhubs.
- It was recognised that there was need to transform transport and access throughout the town, whilst reducing carbon emissions, improving safety, air quality and reducing congestion, it was apparent that in reality public transport will not be appropriate for all residents.
- WSCC had defined a transport strategy and was responding to increased use and developing infrastructure. There was been an increase in the number of electric vehicle charging points following the increase in usage. However it was acknowledged that installation was going to be challenging at some locations for residents.
- Concern was expressed that the further opportunities to work with neighbourhood communities would need to involve active listening and community engagement.

The Cabinet is advised that the Commission agreed to support the report and requested the comments discussed be referred to the Cabinet.

### **3. Cabinet Agenda Item 13 – Town Hall Site Redevelopment: Revised Budget for the District Heat Network (DHN)**

#### **(Exempt Paragraph 3 & 5)**

*Information relating to financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information)*

*Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.*

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

The Commission considered report DCE/05 of the Deputy Chief Executive.

During the discussion, the following comments were made:

- Confirmation that the District Heat Network would provide heating and electricity to the buildings included within the wider Town Hall re-development, and other developments within Crawley Town Centre.
- Crawley Borough Local Plan 2015-2030 (Policy ENV7) highlighted the site as a priority area for the delivery of District Energy Network as identified on the Local Plan Map.
- Confirmation that the Town Hall Working Group had received updates at key stages within the project, with the last such being opened up as an all-member seminar prior to the signing of the contract with Keir to build the new Town Hall.
- Confirmation that the risk register was regularly reviewed and was included on the Audit Committee agenda. The risk register had recently been reformatted and updated to reflect the move to the next stage of the new Town Hall project.
- Confirmation sought and provided on the financial implications and future arrangements.
- Acknowledgement of the design changes, budget allocations and rationale.
- Clarification was sought over the global budget. The Commission indicated its support for option 3 within the report. There was further support for the addition of discreet progress and expenditure tracking against the DHN within that area.

The Cabinet is advised that the Commission:

1. Indicated its broad support in principle for report.
2. Unanimously supported option 3 within section 6 of the report, with the addition of discreet progress and expenditure tracking against the DHN within that area.

**Councillor Rana**  
**Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission**  
**9 March 2020**