

BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting:- Thursday 13th July, 2017
at 2.00 p.m. (Committee Room No. 4)

A G E N D A

PART ONE

1. To note any items which the Chairman considers to be of an urgent nature.
2. To receive notice from Members who may wish to move any delegated matter non-delegated and which will be decided by a majority of Members present and voting at the meeting.

3. Admission of Public and Press

To consider whether the public and press should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the agenda.

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations by Members and/or co-optees of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Members may however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

5. Apologies for Absence/Attendance of Substitute Members.
6. Confirmation of Minutes of the meeting held on 1st June, 2017 (copy attached).
- (D) 7. Appointments on Outside Bodies, Panels, Working Groups etc.
- (D) 8. Waste Working Group.
- (D) 9. Work Programme.

**NOTE (D) – Delegated
(R) – Referred**

Membership of Committee

Councillors Heath (Chairman)
Cassidy (Vice-Chairman)
Gill
Husband
McLeavy
Preston
Proffitt
C. Thomson
M. A. Thomson
Wall
Williams.

For queries regarding this agenda, please contact:

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Published: 5th July, 2017

BOROUGH OF BARROW IN FURNESS

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting, Thursday, 1st June, 2017
at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT:- Councillors Heath (Chairman), Cassidy (Vice-Chairman), Husband, McLeavy, Preston, Proffitt, C. Thomson, Wall and Williams.

Officers Present:- John Penfold (Corporate Support Manager), Brooke Parsons (Corporate Support Assistant) and Paula Westwood (Democratic Services Officer - Member Support).

1 – Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th February, 2017 were taken as read and confirmed.

2 – Minutes of the Barrow Market Liaison Committee

The Minutes of the Barrow Market Liaison Committee meetings held on 6th October, 2016 and 26th January, 2017 had been submitted for information and had been duly noted.

3 – Appointments on Outside Bodies, Panels, Working Groups etc.

At the Annual Council meeting on 16th May, 2017 the allocation of seats in respect of Forums, Panels, Working Groups etc. had been agreed.

In respect of this Committee, Members had been requested to appoint Members to the Leisure Services Group for 2017/2018. In accordance with proportionality rules, the notional seat allocations for 2017/2018 were as follows:-

Leisure Services Group (5 seats) 4 Labour: 1 Conservative

RESOLVED:- To request that further clarification be sought regarding the notional seat allocations in accordance with the proportionality rules for the Leisure Services Group as last year the split had been 3 Labour: 2 Conservative and that this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

4 – Comparison of Recycling Performance

The Corporate Support Manager submitted a report providing Members with recycling tonnages and the income from the Recycling Reward Scheme.

He advised that the Council had received an income for the separate collection of recycling. This was a variable income known as the Recycling Reward Scheme and the Council had received £66.00 per tonne in 2016/2017. The Council had received £541,543 from the Recycling Reward Scheme in 2016/2017 which was

£11,803 lower than in 2015/2016. This was attributed to less dry recycling but had partially been offset by the increase in the value of recycling reward payments from £64.08 to £66.00 per tonne.

Table 1: Projected and actual incomes from Recycling Reward

Financial Year	Budgeted Income from Recycling Reward	Actual Income
2015/2016	£540,000	£553,346
2016/2017	£574,210	£541,543

The breakdown of tonnages in Table 2 indicate that the lower recycling level in 2016/2017 had been mainly due to dry recycling from bring sites and paper being collected. This had been offset by an increase green waste.

Table 2: Tonnages collected from the different recycling streams

Financial Year	Kerbside comingled	Bring-site comingled	Green	WEEE	Paper	Total Tonnes
2015/2016	3477	774	3214	92	778	8535
2016/2017	3422	368	3579	97	738	8205

Members had been requested to note that as part of the new Waste Management Contract the Council would no longer be collecting green waste. The green waste collection from April 2017 would be provided by FCC Environment.

RESOLVED:- To note the report.

5 – Work Programme

The Corporate Support Manager had requested Members to consider the Work Programme for 2017/2018 and prioritise the reviews to be undertaken.

Full details of the Work Programme for 2016/2017 had been included within the Annual Report (Minute No. 6 refers). Members noted that Items 1 (Allotments), 3 (Coastal Protection) and 8 (Cultural Services) had been completed. Items 2 (Street Cleanliness) and 9 (Policy and Strategy) were standing items for this Committee.

Item 5 (Town Centre Development and Supporting Local Traders), it was noted that Barrow had recently become a Business Improvement District and it was recommended that this Committee monitored their initiatives and that reviewing arrangements at this time may duplicate their efforts.

In respect of Item 4 (Estates and Asset Management), it was agreed that this item would not be added to the Work Programme due to the implementation of a new data system in the Estates Department. Officers should be allowed time to implement this.

Proposed Items for Inclusion on the 2017/2018 Work Programme

It was moved by Councillor Proffitt and seconded by Councillor Cassidy that Street Cleanliness/Recycling be included in the Work Programme and that a presentation by paid Officers should take place to inform Members of the specifications for the new Waste Management and Recycling Contract including FCC's Communication Strategy.

It was moved by Councillor Heath and seconded by Councillor Proffitt that a scrutiny review of Revenues and Benefits be added to the Work Programme.

It was also noted that Housing Strategy would be included in the Work Programme which had previously been deferred until the Local Plan had been adopted.

RESOLVED:- To agree that the following items would be included in the Work Programme for 2017/2018:-

1. Street Cleanliness/Recycling;
2. Revenues and Benefits; and
3. Housing Strategy.

REFERRED ITEM

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS ARE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

6 – Annual Report 2016/2017

The Corporate Support Manager presented the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2016/2017.

The Council had one Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the remit to investigate, scrutinise, monitor, oversee and comment on service delivery mechanisms, policy implementation, or any other issue affecting the Borough or its residents provided that they had previously been considered by either the Executive Committee or Council.

Membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2016/17 was Councillors Heath (Chairman), Cassidy (Vice-Chairman), Gill, Husband, McLeavy, Preston, Proffitt, Roberts, C. Thomson, M. A. Thomson, Wall and Williams.

Members had previously agreed to develop a four year work programme up to March 2016 and had identified topics for review. These were presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Item	Topic	Scope of the review
1	Allotments.	To review the Council's arrangements for managing tenancies and the waiting list. Ensure the allotment service was financially sustainable
2	Street cleanliness.	To review to Council's arrangements for working with the contractor to deliver a higher standard of street cleanliness. To ensure appropriate arrangements were in place to manage external factors the impact on street cleanliness e.g. seagulls and fly tipping.
3	Coastal protection.	The implementation of phase four of the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy had resulted in changes to the way in which coastal defence projects were funded. The review focused on the Council's medium term project plan and how it would be funded.
4	Estates and asset management.	To review arrangements for maximising income from the Council's assets and the potential for the disposal of redundant assets.
5	Town centres development and supporting local traders.	Review arrangements for supporting local traders in the current economic climate.
6	Highways and car parking	Review the provision of highways maintenance by Cumbria County Council. Review street lighting and on-street parking arrangements.
7	Economic Development, planning and development control.	Review arrangements for planning and economic development in light of the reduced funding as a result of the Government's deficit reduction programme. Ensure the Council still had appropriate arrangements in place to access development funding.
8	Cultural Services	Review the impact of the Council's service review on cultural services. The review considered events, distribution of funding and service charges.
9	Policy and strategy	Monitor the development of and performance against the Council's key priorities.
10	Housing strategy	Members had agreed to defer reviewing the housing strategy until the Local Plan had been adopted.
11	Localised flooding	The Environmental Protection Officer who was the Council's Lead Officer on the MSfWG provided a presentation of the current arrangements for preventing and dealing with local flooding. Members were provided with a list of the current flood hotspots within the Borough. Members were satisfied that appropriate arrangements were in place.

From the above Work Programme, Items 1 (Allotments), 3 (Coastal Protection), and 8 (Cultural Services) had been completed. Items 2 (Street Cleanliness) and 9 (Policy and Strategy) were standing items for this Committee.

Street Cleanliness

Members had received a number of street cleansing reports and raised their concerns regarding the reduction in the amount of waste being recycled. The amount of material recycled had reduced from 9369 tonnes in 2012/2013 to 8149 tonnes in 2016/2017.

Members had also been concerned about an increase in contamination in green waste collections, which had been attributable to residents using their green waste bins for residual waste.

It was anticipated that the new recycling service would lead to an increase in recycling tonnages. The benefits of using a large wheelie bin for recycling was assessed as part of the Council's bid for Weekly Collection Support Scheme funding.

The Council would not be providing a green waste collection from April 2017.

Friends of Barrow Cemetery Group

A 'Friends of the Cemetery' Group had established in 2016/2017. The Council were currently associate members of the Federation of Cemetery Friends.

The Cemetery had around 1000 trees and the Council were required to keep a record of them. It had been suggested that Quick Response codes would be one option to keep track of the trees; another benefit of them would be that members of the family could also add more information onto the code about the person passed. Currently a trial to assess the viability of using the Quick Response codes was being undertaken by Cemetery staff.

Friends of Barrow Town Hall

Members had agreed to establish a 'Friends of the Town Hall' Group to provide an opportunity for the public to visit the Town Hall building. This has been promoted in the local press but there was limited interest from the public.

Egerton Court

A Multi-Agency Partnership Group has been established involving the Borough Council, County Council, Police, The Well Project and Barrow Island Community Trust to identify how improvements could be delivered in the Egerton Court area of Barrow Island. A member of the Scrutiny Committee was a representative on the group and the Committee received reports and updates on a regular basis.

Performance Information

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had also received performance data and financial data including budget assumptions and core spending power information.

RECOMMENDED:- (i) To note the Annual Report and priorities; and

(ii) To agree to present the Annual Report to full Council.

The meeting closed at 3.10 p.m.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		Part One (D) Agenda Item 7
Date of Meeting:	13th July, 2017	
Reporting Officer:	Executive Director	
<p>Title: Appointments on Outside Bodies, Panels, Working Groups etc.</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions:</p> <p>The Council on 16th May, 2017 gave delegated authority to Committees to make appointments to Outside Bodies, Forums Panels, Working Groups etc. in accordance with the number and allocation of seats to political groups agreed at the Meeting. In the case of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee this involves appointments to the Leisure Services Group.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>To nominate and agree the appointments to the Leisure Services Group for 2017/18.</p>		

Report

At the Annual Council Meeting on 16th May, 2017 the allocation of seats in respect of Forums, Panels, Working Groups etc. was agreed.

Members are requested to appoint Members to the Leisure Services Group for 2017/2018.

In accordance with proportionality rules, the notional seat allocations for 2017/18 are as follows:-

Leisure Services Group – Five Seats (4 Labour: 1 Conservative).

Background Papers

Nil

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		Part One (D) Agenda Item 8
Date of Meeting:	13th July, 2017	
Reporting Officer:	Corporate Support Manager	
<p>Title: Waste Working Group</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions:</p> <p>To provide Members with an update from the Waste Working Group.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Members are invited to consider the information and agree how to progress this review.</p>		

Report

At the meeting of this Committee on 1st June, 2017 Members agreed to establish a work group to review waste collection and street cleanliness. The work group met on 15th June and were provided with an overview of the service and arrangements for monitoring service delivery. Councillors Cassidy and Husband met with the Street Care Manager on 3rd July. He provided information on the Council's statutory duties and current issues including significant amounts of contamination in the recycling bins and issues with street cleansing. He informed the Councillors that following the restructure of the waste collection and street cleansing teams during the week commencing 17th July he anticipates seeing an improvement in street cleanliness and waste collection.

I will provide a verbal update at this meeting.

Background Papers

Nil.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		Part One (D) Agenda Item 9
Date of Meeting:	13th July, 2017	
Reporting Officer:	Corporate Support Manager	
<p>Title: Work Programme</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions:</p> <p>To provide Members with an update of the Work Programme.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Members are invited to consider the information.</p>		

Report

At the meeting of this Committee on 1st June Members agreed to review the following topics in 2017/18.

Item	Topic	Scope of the review
1	Street cleanliness.	To review Council's arrangements for working with the contractor to deliver a higher standard of street cleanliness. To ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to manage external factors the impact on street cleanliness e.g. seagulls and fly tipping.
2	Revenues and Benefits	To review arrangements delivering the Revenues and Benefits service including the level of support the Council provides to residents to help them to complete application forms.
3	Housing strategy	Review availability of private sector and socially housing and consider partnership arrangements to ensure that the availability of housing in the borough meets demand.

Background Papers

Nil