

## Review Committee – 1 March 2022

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Review Committee** held on **1 March 2022** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr S A Wilson  
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Mrs J E McPherson

Cllr R P Constable	Cllr J E Newport
Cllr J N Gooding	Cllr Mrs C A Pavelin
Cllr B T Hazlewood	Cllr Mrs L Shaw
Cllr Mrs C M Mason	Cllr P J Shaw
Cllr G W Myers	Cllr M G Wilkinson

### **VISITING MEMBERS**

Cllrs M J Webb, A L Williams and S E Wootton.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R R Dray, I A Foster and Mrs E P Gadsdon.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Cllr R Milne - for Cllr R R Dray  
Cllr Mrs J R Gooding - for Cllr Mrs E P Gadsdon

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

A Hutchings	- Strategic Director
M Harwood-White	- Assistant Director, Assets and Commercial
L Moss	- Assistant Director, People and Communities
S Worthington	- Principal Democratic and Corporate Services Officer
W Szyszka	- Democratic Services Officer

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Insp. C Calder - Castle Point & Rochford Community Policing Team

### **46 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs J E Newport and Mrs C A Pavelin each declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 of the agenda relating to the Community Safety Partnership by virtue of membership of Rayleigh Town Council.

### 48 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Members considered the report of the Assistant Director, People and Communities, updating Members on the delivery of the joint Castle Point and Rochford District Community Safety Partnership (CP&RCSP) priorities and actions.

In response to a Member query regarding 'violence against person' crime figures, Insp. Calder advised that due to the varying nature of the offences, it was difficult to break down this figure in detail; however, 46% of violence against person crimes primarily revolved around domestic abuse, which remains a primary focus for Essex Police with partners.

A Member spoke favourably of the collaborative work carried out by the local policing team commending the good response rate from the Police who continued to patrol areas that had experienced issues with anti-social behaviour.

A Member queried whether there was an actual increase in offences against a person, or whether there was a change in the recording process or legislation. Officers advised that the figures reflected a rise in the data.

In response to a Member query relating to knife crime statistics, it was clarified that knife crime data was difficult to identify separately as it usually fell under a different type of offence; for instance, assault. Detailed statistics of crimes within a specific area could be found at [www.police.co.uk](http://www.police.co.uk).

The Police officer confirmed, in response to a Member query, that anti-social behaviour within the district remained a priority for the local policing team. A number of local operations had been successful, that had reduced numbers and this work was ongoing.

The Police officer further advised that Police resources had significantly changed, and local town team officers were in place to support with the anti-social behaviour work.

In response to a Member query around the effectiveness of Essex Youth Workers in reducing the level of anti-social behaviour, officers advised that the service was effective. Essex Police focused on maintaining a good relationship with the local youth workers.

A Member questioned whether a community trigger had been made over the last year. Officers advised that that was not the case.

A Member raised a query with regard to paragraph 4.3 on page 6.3 of the report as to why there was a change in the analytical support. In response, it was clarified that Essex Police continued to employ analysts; however, their capacity was now reduced and the role of putting the data together into a strategic assessment document was now the Partnership's role. This change in

responsibility would continue to be discussed at the Essex Community Safety Partnership network.

In response to a Member query with regard to Crucial Crew and the effectiveness of online sessions, officers stated that the success rate overall was very good; numbers attending remained good and it was a flexible, low cost option for schools. Officers further advised that in-person events would receive more engagement; however, the impact of online sessions had been the same. It was also noted that online sessions were more flexible for schools to accommodate.

A Member queried the J9 initiative and whether this was actively promoted by the Council. Officers advised that a detailed answer would be provided to Members outside the meeting. J9 remained a training programme; however, a range of domestic abuse work was being carried out across Essex in part as a response to the new Domestic Abuse Act.

In response to a Member question as to when the CCTV network would be implemented across the district, officers made reference to the work of the Member CCTV Working Group, a report from which was being considered by Rayleigh Town Council.

### **Resolved**

To note the progress made by the Castle Point and Rochford Community Safety Partnership during 2021/22. (ADPC)

## **49 DISPOSAL FRAMEWORK**

Members considered the report of the Assistant Director, Assets and Commercial providing an overview of the Council's Disposal Framework and summary of how it had been applied since its inception.

In response to a Member query as to whether there was a policy in place to consider the environmental impacts, officers advised that including this consideration within the Framework was something that had been discussed with the Portfolio Holder and would be considered going forward.

During debate it was observed that there would be merit in including consideration of environmental and community/social value issues within the Disposal Framework.

The point was emphasised by a Member that the Disposal Framework provided a good process to guide the disposal of assets; however, the use of a risk assessment process could enhance this further. It was further considered that there would be merit in setting up a Working Group, under the auspices of the Portfolio Holder for Commercial, Business, Local Economy and Leisure, to consider the use of risk assessments and to inform disposal options.

A Member raised a query with regard to paragraph 3.5 on page 7.1 of the report on how assets were marketed for disposal. It was noted that the Framework would enable consideration of either community or commercial uses of assets and ensure that appropriate marketing was carried out. The point was made that community groups should not be disadvantaged in their ability to bid for assets during disposal of Council assets.

### **Resolved**

To note the implementation of the Disposal Framework since its inception.

It was further:

### **Recommended to the Executive**

- (1) That consideration of environmental and community/social value issues be included in the Disposal Framework.

(This was unanimously agreed.)

- (2) That community groups should not be disadvantaged in their ability to bid for assets during disposal of Council assets.

(This was unanimously agreed.)

- (3) That a Member Working Group be established, under the auspices of the Portfolio Holder for Commercial, Business, Local Economy and Leisure, to consider the use of risk assessments to inform disposal options.  
(ADAC)

(9 Members voted in favour, 5 Members against and 0 abstained.)

## **50 KEY DECISIONS DOCUMENT**

Members considered and noted the contents of the Key Decisions Document.

## **51 WORK PLAN**

The Chairman advised that the Committee would consider a report from the Carbon Neutral Working Group at its meeting on 5 April 2022.

The Chairman further commented that there had been an issue involving enforcement across the district and suggested that a Working Group be established at the start of the next Municipal Year.

The Assistant Director, People and Communities advised that the Homeless Strategy report would be presented to the Committee in the next Municipal Year.

An update was given by the Strategic Director regarding the partnership between Brentwood Borough Council and Rochford District Council and that

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strategic work had commenced and a report would be brought to the Committee in due course.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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