

Review Committee – 11 June 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the **Review Committee** held on **11 June 2013** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr C J Lumley
Vice-Chairman: Cllr D J Sperring

Cllr Mrs T J Capon
Cllr R R Dray
Cllr J D Griffin
Cllr Mrs A V Hale
Cllr B T Hazlewood

Cllr M Hoy
Cllr J R F Mason
Cllr Mrs C E Roe
Cllr C G Seagers
Cllr I H Ward

VISITING MEMBER

Cllr K H Hudson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs L A Butcher, T E Mountain and Mrs M J Webster.

OFFICERS PRESENT

P Warren - Chief Executive
P Gowers - Overview and Scrutiny Officer
M Power - Committee Administrator

106 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

107 OVERALL WORK PROGRAMME AND METHODOLOGY

The Committee deliberated on a number of topics for consideration by the Review Committee for its 2013/14 programme. Some of these topics had been included in the Review Committee's 2012/13 Annual Report. The Chief Executive's report to Full Council on 26 February 2013 on the Key Policies and Actions for 2013/14 also contained suggestions for possible Reviews.

It was noted that as the reviews would feed into the Budget process, they would need to meet an October 2013 deadline.

It was agreed that the following reviews would be undertaken by the Committee:-

- **Review of the Council's car parks and parking charges.** The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Heritage addressed the Committee. New machines had been installed in the car parks and, although there had been an increase in car parking charges in 2011, income had remained

static. It is important that there remains a fair and reasonable charging structure for car parking. It was noted that car parking charges is one of the main income streams for the Council and a reduced income would affect provision of other services that the Council provides. The Transportation Manager would provide information on historical/current parking structures and work closely with the project team. Paperwork showing current income from car park charges would be distributed to Members of the Committee after the meeting.

The project team for this review would be: Cllrs J D Griffin, Mrs A V Hale, B T Hazlewood, Mrs C E Roe and I H Ward.

- **Review of options for change and financial savings that could be negotiated with the Street Cleansing and Waste Management Contractor.** The project team would look at whether the 'roll forward' option that the Council has after Year 7 of the contract should be exercised. The review would look at the balance between cost and quality for both contracts and whether the current excellent service regarding recycling could be maintained and improved. Rochford District Council has the highest rate of recycling of all authorities in the east of England.

The project team for this review would be: Cllrs Mrs L A Butcher, Mrs T J Capon, R R Dray, M Hoy, J R F Mason, T E Mountain and C G Seagers.

- **Review of woodlands, including opportunities of additional funding streams.** The review would focus on what level of basic service is maintained, opportunities for increasing income/reducing costs, grants available and opportunities for wider use of the Council's woodlands.

The project team for this review would be: Cllrs J D Griffin, Mrs C E Roe and I H Ward.

- **Review of Leisure Service provision and the Leisure Services Contract.** The Council is in Year 12 of a 20-year contract with Virgin Active, which manages The Mill Arts & Events Centre, Rayleigh, the Freight House, Rochford, and Castle Road Hall, Rayleigh, as well as the two main leisure centres at Clements Hall and at Rayleigh. The review would look at how effectively the assets within the contract were being managed, options that may be available for use of some of the assets and whether or how income could be maximised and/or costs reduced.

The project team for this review would be: Cllrs Mrs T J Capon, R R Dray, B T Hazlewood and M Hoy.

The Review Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman would be involved in the work of all four project teams.

Dates for project team meetings would be arranged as soon as possible to enable Members to commence reviews to meet the October deadline.

Review Committee – 11 June 2013

The Health and Wellbeing Board would be invited to attend the October meeting of the Review Committee. The review around implementation of the changes to the welfare system would be undertaken towards the end of the municipal year when the impact of the changes would be more apparent.

The meeting closed at 8.04 pm.

Chairman

Date

If you would like these minutes in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 318111.