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CommitteeName MeetingDate

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS STEERING GROUP HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2017

PRESENT:

County Councillor Mr J Brautigam (Chair)
County Councillors JG Morris and G I S Williams

Officers: Peter Jones (Professional Lead - Corporate Insight), Clive Pinney (Solicitor to the Council), David Powell (Strategic Director - Resources), Lisa Richards (Scrutiny Officer) and Wyn Richards (Scrutiny Manager and Head of Democratic Services)

1.	APOLOGIES
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Members: County Councillors M J Dorrance, D R Jones and E Durrant (Vice-Chair)
Officers: None.

2.	DRAFT NOTES - FOR CONSIDERATION
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Documents Considered:

- Draft Notes – 20th June, 2017

Issues Discussed:

- None

Outcomes:

- **Noted.**

3.	DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STRATEGIC DIRECTORS REGARDING POTENTIAL SCRUTINY ITEMS
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Documents Considered:

- None

Issues Discussed:

- Finance Scrutiny Panel (FSP) will have work revolving around the Cabinet's 2025 vision. The vision will probably mean the reshaping of the Council's current Corporate Plan programmes. These revised programmes will need to be scrutinised.
- Audit is considering issues such as the Brecon Cultural Hub. The integration project with Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) will need scrutiny with the FSP possibly scrutinising the financial element of the proposals.
- Scrutiny of the White Paper regarding Local Government Reform – how prepared is the Council for the changes. Legislation is expected in 2018 with a Statement from the Cabinet Secretary on the outcome of the consultation expected in July 2017.
- Integration with PTHB – 2 models under consideration (a) continue with current integration process but with more emphasis or (b) health led option (unlikely to be favoured by Welsh Government). The option of an

- arms length company has been rejected. The feedback on the options appraisal will be received in October.
- FSP meeting before August but this depends on the timing of the meetings being held by Cabinet as there is a need for Portfolio Holder for Finance to discuss budget and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). FSP will not be considering budget predictions this year. Also Audit Committee is likely to resurrect the Finance and Performance Working Group. It was suggested that the Strategic Overview Board could be used as a reference point for FSP on financial and performance issues and vice-versa.

Outcomes:

- **Noted.**

4.	REVIEW OF THE SCRUTINY SERVICE - DRAFT REPORT
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Documents Considered:

- Update report on the review by the Strategic Director – Resources.

Issues Discussed:

- Solicitor to the Council tested an assumption that as committees had established a number of working groups the intention was that there would be one meeting of a scrutiny working group per committee per week. Assuming that of the 14 Members on a scrutiny committee 3 only would form a working group and 4 groups, this would mean that Members would only have one additional meeting per month. The Steering Group considered that this would not be onerous for Members.
- However it was stressed that the success of scrutiny depended on Member engagement especially from those Members appointed to scrutiny committees by their political groups. Co-option was allowed onto working groups but there was still a need for committee Members to engage in the process. It was suggested that if members did not attend or engage then this would be discussed with the relevant Group Leader.
- There was also a responsibility for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee to encourage other Members to take part in working groups.
- Once the review was completed and submitted to the Strategic Director – Resources the report would be considered by the Management Team in August.

Outcomes:

- **Noted.**

5.	DRAFT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2016-17
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Documents Considered:

- Draft Annual Performance Evaluation 2016-17

Issues Discussed:

- There is a statutory responsibility to prepare this report. The formal approval process commences in August 2017.
- Comments on the Draft Document:
 - RAG information is sparse until all wales information provided.
 - 2016/17 outcome information should be included in the draft report.
 - Qualitative assessment – no cost benefit analysis. This needs to be built into the planning process, and also a need to integrate financial and performance data. Example – Page 31 – Learning disabilities – scrutiny work showed a disproportionate spending on this service by the Council by comparison to the remainder of Councils in wales. At what cost has improvement been achieved?
 - Is there sufficient challenge of improvement in the document? Is it too positive? Scrutiny does provide an element of challenge. This is a commitment from the One Powys Plan update.
 - Page 37 – Looked After Children – why has there been an increase in numbers. A comment on the increase needs to be included.

Outcomes:

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Additional Information to be included and the document recirculated to the Steering Group for further comments	14/07/17	PJ

6.	WORK PROGRAMME
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Documents Considered:

- Agenda – requests for items to be included in the Forward Work Programme.
- Cabinet Forward Work Programme
- Scrutiny Forward Work Programme

Issues Discussed:

- Requests for items to be included in the Forward Work Programme:
 - Pre-Scrutiny item – Staylitttle Outdoor Pursuits Centre - agreed
 - Preparation for General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) - agreed
 - Commissioning and Procurement - agreed
 - Review of positive integration between the Council and Health - agreed
 - Review of Flood Risk Management Plan - agreed

- General Data Protection Regulations – coming into force in May 2018 - to be undertaken in 2 sections Oct / 17 and Feb/Mar 18. Need to consider are Council's plans appropriate and progress on implementation.
- Commissioning and Procurement – need to look at major capital projects e.g. Brecon Cultural Hub, (pre establishment of Commercial Services). Need to consider if Commissioning and procurement processes fit for purpose, are processes being applied consistently.
- Commissioning and Procurement Strategy should be scrutinised.
- Also a need to look at the Capital Programme generally – request copy to assess which elements of the programme to scrutinise.
- Commissioning and Procurement Board – agreed to make request to the Chair that scrutiny chairs should be observers at meetings of the Board.
- Louise Barry to be asked which positive integration project should be scrutinised.
- Steering Group noted that the Chair had been requested and agreed to present to future meetings any issues arising from a review of performance and finance by the Strategic Overview Board which could be included in the Forward Work Programme.
- Steering Group expressed concern that the Cabinet Forward Work Programme was not populated fully for 2018. In addition the Cabinet should be asked to inform the Steering Group of any items which it would wish to be scrutinised which could be included in the Forward Work Programme.
- Items from the Cabinet Forward Work Programme identified for Pre-Scrutiny:
 - Domiciliary Care Future Commissioning – Cttee A – Sept 17
 - Home to School Transport – Cttee B – Sept 17
 - New Schools Reorganisation Proposals – Cttee B – Sept 17
 - Residential care Fee Setting – Cttee A / ASG Working Group – Sept 17
 - North Powys Secondary Welsh Medium Review – Cttee B – Sept 17
 - Schools Funding Formula – Cttee B – Oct 17
 - Special Schools Review – Cttee B – Oct 17
 - Staylitttle Outdoor Centre – Cttee B – Oct 17
 - HTR Commissioning – Cttee A – Sept 17
 - Review of CAP Policy – Cttee A - Nov/Dec 17
 - Review of Farms Policy – Cttee A - Nov/Dec 17
 - Commercial Property Policy – Cttee A – Nov/Dec 17
- Scrutiny Manager to add above items to Forward Work Programme and to re-circulate document to the Steering Group. The Chair and Vice-Chair to agree the Forward Work programme with officers.

Outcomes:

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Following items to be added to the Forward Work Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Scrutiny item – Staylitttle Outdoor Pursuits Centre – 	31 July 17	WR

<p>Cttee B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – Cttee A • Commissioning and Procurement – Audit / Cttee A • Review of positive integration between the Council and Health – Cttee A • Review of Flood Risk Management Plan – Cttee A – Nov 17 		
<p>Request to Chair of Commissioning and procurement Board that scrutiny chairs are allowed as observers at meetings of the Board.</p>	31 July 17	WR
<p>Request copy of the Capital Programme for next meeting to assess scrutiny of Programme.</p>	31 July 17	WR
<p>Request positive integration project to scrutinise from Louise Barry</p>	31 July 17	WR
<p>Chair to write to the Leader regarding the need to populate the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for 2018 and to ask the cabinet to identify any items which it wished the Steering Group to consider for inclusion in the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme</p>	31 July 17	JB / WR
<p>Pre-Scrutiny Items identified in the Cabinet Work Programme to be added to the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme.</p>	31 July 17	WR

7. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

7.1. Draft Notes of Previous Meeting(s)

Documents Considered:

- Draft Notes – 8th June, 2017

Issues Discussed:

- None

Outcomes:

- **Noted.**

7.2. Public Service Board - Vision 2040

Documents Considered:

- PSB Vision 2040.

Issues Discussed:

- Vision is early work for the WellBeing Plan in April 2018.
- Vision is looking forward to 2040 and how decisions taken today will affect the vision / position by 2040.
- Steering Group considered that there is a need to focus on what can be delivered rather than the document being overly aspirational, otherwise the impact could be lost.
- Any comments on the vision to be submitted to Peter Jones.
- Page 113 – need to enlarge on the comment regarding BBNP / NRW visitor centres to include other centres including private ones.

Outcomes:

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Steering Group to send any comments to Peter Jones	31 July 17	Steering Group Members

7.3. PSB Dates - For Information

- 20 July 2017
- 21 September 2017
- 26 October 2017
- 21 December 2017

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS - FOR INFORMATION
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- 19 September 2017
- 10 October 2017
- 7 November 2017
- 5 December 2017

The Steering Group was also asked to consider if Powys should continue to attend meetings of the Mid Wales Health Care Collaborative. It was suggested that there was little value in Powys being involved in attending these meetings any further as there was little scrutiny being undertaken.

RESOLVED that Powys should no longer be attending meetings of the Mid Wales Health Care Collaborative.

County Councillor Mr J Brautigam (Chair)

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