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Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

2pm on Monday, 1 November, 2021

Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull

Present: Councillors Chaytor (Chair), Conner, Dad, Dearing, Fareham, Fudge, Hatcher, Healand, Herrera-Richmond, Matthews, Pritchard, Mrs C.E Randall and Ross.

In attendance:

A. Codd (Assistant Director Economic Development and Regeneration)

A. Holgate (Governance Group Manager)

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Wilson.

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30	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
Councillor Chaytor declared a personal interest in minute 32 insofar as his wife works for Hull Chamber of Commerce.		
31	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 4th October 2021	
The Head of Governance submitted the minutes of the meeting of Monday, 4 th October, 2021 for approval.		
Councillor Mrs Randall advised that both her and Councillor Ross were in attendance at the meeting but were not recorded within the minutes as attending.		
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:	Officer Assigned
That, the minutes of the meeting held on the 4 th October, 2021, having been printed and circulated and once the attendee list had been amended, be taken as read and correctly recorded.	N/A	Scrutiny Officer (FH)
32	BREXIT RELATED ISSUES	
The Assistant Director (Economic Development and Regeneration) provided an update on key Brexit issues.		
The Commission discussed:		
i. Supply chain issues and shortages; problems with getting containers into the UK; and, the need to put pressure on MPs to review import related paperwork.		
ii. When border controls would be in place.		
iii. Fishing quotas.		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Staff shortages within the City and steps being taken to deliver relevant training to local residents, including job-seekers; and, support for the hospitality trade. v. International trade. vi. What the Council's Corporate Strategy Team was doing in terms of risk management and planning for the future; and, the need for the Committee to have sight of the measures being taken and feed in where appropriate. 		
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:	Officer Assigned
a) That a copy of the Brexit Risk Log is circulated to members of this Committee within 5 working days, with members being given the opportunity to highlight their areas of concern prior to a briefing exploring those concerns being brought to a future meeting.	a) Members felt a more in-depth consideration of the risk register was needed in order to monitor actions currently being overseen by CST.	a) Alex Codd

33	NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS	
<p>A. Holgate presented a report to consider new Notice of Key Decisions and determine any further Scrutiny action.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the most appropriate course of pre-decision scrutiny for the Streetscene Resilience & SUDS key decision.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that the decision was to be split into two separate reports, one being focussed on grounds and gully maintenance, and one relating to open spaces and biodiversity. Discussion took place as to which Overview and Scrutiny Commissions should carry out pre-decision scrutiny of each report.</p>		
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:	Officer Assigned
a) Streetscene Resilience & SUDS – That the decision around grounds and gully maintenance be referred for pre-decision scrutiny to the Infrastructure & Energy Overview and Scrutiny Commission as the decision relates to flooding.	a) For pre-decision scrutiny.	a) Fiona Harbord / Ruth Stephenson
b) That the decision around open spaces and biodiversity be referred for pre-decision scrutiny to the	b) For pre-decision scrutiny.	b) Maria Kohler

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People and Overview and Scrutiny Commission.		
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34	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION LIST
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The Head of Governance presented an item to review actions from previous meetings of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the previously agreed actions and whether they would remain on the resolution list.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:	Officer Assigned
a) Row 1 - Transport motion - Leave on to inform progress and keep a watching brief, with a meeting to be organised within the next three weeks.	a) To ensure the transport motion is addressed.	a) Members
b) Row 2 – Cycling enforcement – That Cllr Herrera-Richmond had written to the PCC but had not yet received a response, so the action would remain on the list.	b) To ensure the action remained open until a response was received.	b) Councillor Herrera-Richmond
c) Row 3 – Major Project Overspends - That the briefing presented at the October meeting of the Finance and Value for Money Overview and Scrutiny Commission be circulated to members of this Committee, along with the related minute.	c) To inform the Committee of the outcome of the work referred to the Finance and Value for Money OSC.	c) F. Harbord
d) Row 4 – Newsletter Delivery Contract - That the briefing presented at the October meeting of the Finance and Value for Money Overview and Scrutiny Commission be circulated to members of this Committee, along with the related minute.	d) To inform the Committee of the outcome of the work referred to the Finance and Value for Money OSC.	d) F. Harbord

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSIONS ACTIVITY AND OUTCOMES REVIEW

The Head of Governance presented an item to consider progress of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions during the first half of the municipal year.

The Chair introduced each of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission Chairs and invited them to detail the work that their Commissions had carried out so far in the 2021-22 municipal year, and asked if extra resource was likely to be needed to deliver a successful work programme during the remainder of the year.

Councillor Conner summarised the work of the Finance and Value for Money OSC.

Councillor Dearing detailed the work of the Infrastructure and Energy OSC. The Chair of OSMC asked that Councillor Dearing consider including the issues around HS2 and rail electrification at the earliest possible meeting.

Councillor Matthews advised of the work of the Early Support and Lifelong Learning OSC. Cllr Matthews included in her summary that the Director of Children's Services provided regular updates to the Scrutiny Commission, but this statement was questioned by another member, and Cllr Matthews agreed that the updates were sometimes provided to her only.

Councillor Fudge informed the Commission of the work of the People and Communities OSC and planned areas of work. A member asked how the large number of items on the Commission's work programme could be prioritised, and Councillor Fudge advised that this was to be looked at and assessed.

Councillor Herrera-Richmond gave a detailed summary of the work of the Economy and Regeneration OSC, the outcomes of the items on the E&R OSC agenda, and future items that had resulted. It was agreed that he would work with members to identify information that needed to be circulated and consideration of potential future agenda items.

Members requested that a briefing regarding the Health and Social Well-Being OSC from Councillor Wilson be circulated.

The Committee discussed the purpose of Scrutiny; that Scrutiny did not seem as effective as in the past; the options for change to make Scrutiny more effective going forward; and, work that needed to take place to address such issues.

Recommendations:

Reasons for Recommendations:

Officer Assigned

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<p>a) That the Governance Group Manager bring a report to the January 2022 meeting of this Committee exploring options for the resourcing of the Scrutiny Commissions to ensure the scrutiny function is more effective, more adaptable, enables more in-depth investigation, and generally better meets member requirements.</p> <p>b) That consideration is given to how the Member Development budget can be best utilised to support members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions to receive training or attend courses that will increase their knowledge to enable them to better challenge decisions and information within the scrutiny environment.</p>	<p>a) Members raised concerns about the quality of the scrutiny undertaken by the Scrutiny Commissions and wished to know if more resource could be invested in order to deliver more effective scrutiny.</p> <p>b) It was felt that members would benefit from external training and courses to broaden their knowledge and consider the work and views of members and officers external to the Council.</p>	<p>a) Alex Holgate</p> <p>b) Alex Holgate</p>
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