

**DRAFT MINUTES
POLICY REVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Monday 11 February 2013

Councillor C Powell (Chair)

Councillors:	P A Allan	S Poole
	E Bailey (a)	S J Prew-Smith
	K Blair	G Tunnicliffe
	R F Collis (a)	H Wheeler
	M Glover	
	G Gregory	

Observers:	M Hope
	P Hughes

Officers in attendance: J. Ansell

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor R F Collis

24 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 2012 AND 6 DECEMBER 2012.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meetings, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

None

26 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME REVIEW

Members received an update on the progress of current Performance and Policy Scrutiny working groups as detailed in the Scrutiny Work Programme.

Cllr Blair proposed that when a review is scoped, consideration in each case should be given to the opportunities and timeframes that exist to feed in to Council projects and plans.

Key questions: Where is the review going? How and when does it link in?

Members asked when the Portfolio Holder response to the questions raised and recommendations made in relation to the Aligned Core Strategy at the

special Policy Review Scrutiny Committee would be received (Special Policy Scrutiny Committee held on 6 December and recommendations reported to the Cabinet Meeting on 10 January).

The Members' Services Team Leader explained that the Portfolio Holder is given 2 months from the date of the relevant Cabinet meeting to respond to Scrutiny recommendations, therefore 10 March 2013 would be the cut off point in this instance.

Councillor Glover requested that his name be removed from the Localism, Planning and Housing Scrutiny Working Group on the Scrutiny Work Programme. Councillors Powell and P. Allan gave their apologies for the next meeting of this group on 26 February.

Councillor P. Allan reported on the most recent meeting of the Council's engagement with the Voluntary Sector working group. Three officers had attended and provided a comprehensive overview of current service agreements with voluntary support organisations however some Councillors were not present. She requested that a short summary/recap of the information be made available at the next meeting.

The chairman raised the importance of Members attendance at the next meeting of the above working group, particularly as the officers are working positively with Scrutiny. Councillors Wheeler and Gregory requested to attend.

Members requested confirmation that the response received from the Portfolio Holder to the Sustainability 1 / Use of Energy review had been circulated to the Chair of the working group.

RESOLVED

- i. That key opportunities and timeframes to feed in to Council plans be identified in the scope of reviews.
- ii. That Councillors Wheeler and Gregory be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council's Engagement with the Voluntary Sector working group.
- iii. That the Members Services Team Leader would follow up Members' queries regarding Portfolio Holder responses.

27 SCRUTINY STRATEGIC PLAN 2013/14

The Chair informed Members of discussions that had taken place at the last two meetings of the Overview Scrutiny Committee regarding the evolution of Scrutiny in the light of changes to the management structure, culture and policy environment at Gedling.

On the basis of these discussions, a strategic plan for 2013/14 had been approved at the Overview Scrutiny Committee held on 29 1 2013.

Key elements:

- Reviews to take place predominantly at the Committee meetings themselves according to a pre set timetable.
- The work programme and timetable to be agreed at the annual Scrutiny planning meeting (formerly Tea and Scrutiny) and advertised widely amongst members using the quarterly Scrutiny briefing note.
- In the style of Government Select Committees, Portfolio holders and Partners to be held to account both on the performance and their future vision of the services they are responsible for.
- Additional in depth Scrutiny to take place outside of Committees if deemed necessary.
- Greater use of customer satisfaction / compliments and complaints / customer insight information to inform Scrutiny reviews.

Members commented that the pending review of the Council's Waste Strategy would be a good review to take place at Committee.

RESOLVED

To approve the Scrutiny Strategic Plan 2013/14.

28 ANY ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERED URGENT

None