

**Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Subject: Programme of Portfolio Holder Attendance**

**Date: 19 March 2018**

**Author: Democratic Services Officer**

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- I. To consider the areas of responsibility of the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth, as part of the rolling programme of Portfolio Holder attendance.
- II. To discuss areas for examination in the Community Development Portfolio for the March committee.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

At the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Members agreed to continue with a programme of attendance by Portfolio Holders, and relevant officers, at committee. Areas of performance, within each portfolio for examination, would be identified, and questions for Portfolio Holder submitted in advance of each meeting. 'Ad hoc' questions could also be put forward at the meeting itself. Non-executive members have also been invited to submit questions for the Portfolio Holder.

## **3. 2016/2017 PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE**

Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration is attending the Committee to give Members the opportunity to examine areas of responsibility in this Portfolio which include:

- Planning policy, development management and building control

- Transportation
- Town Centre management and development
- Inward investment, business engagement, promotion and support
- Housing Development
- Employment and Skills

A customised report detailing performance outcomes for Q3 for the above Portfolio is attached at **Appendix 1**.

### **3.1 Questions received in advance of the committee**

The following questions and areas for discussion were submitted in advance from Members:

#### **Questions received in advance of the committee**

##### **Employment and Skills**

###### **I. LI 181**

What happens to our apprentices once their time with Gedling Borough Council ceases? Are there any statistics or information available regarding apprentices finding employment after completing the apprenticeship programme? How successful has the programme been?

- II.** In which departments have there been work experience placements. What preparation is made to ensure that the placement is of value, and is there any follow up evaluation to find out if the placement was beneficial?

##### **Inward investment, business engagement, promotion and support**

- III.** What business support is given to small and medium businesses?

##### **Housing Development**

###### **IV. NI 154**

The Housing Delivery Workshop produced a very good and comprehensive "Planning Protocol" document, which lists various commitments and subsequent actions to be undertaken by planners and others in order to enhance and improve housing delivery. Is this being used by the Portfolio Holder as a working document, and has tracking been implemented to ensure the commitments are fulfilled? Would it be feasible and reasonable

for this to be built into the next Performance Report as a separate item and action and allocated a number?

**V. Review and Improve Temporary Housing**

Please elaborate on the "council owned property" being used as temporary accommodation?

**VI. Proactively promote the sale of Council owned land for the purpose of creating new homes.**

What is being done when "proactively promoting the sale of council owned land...etc." Where and what is this land?

**VII. Delivery of allocated housing sites.**

Can you please elaborate on what has been done to progress stalled sites?

**VIII. Secure provision of more affordable housing including homes for rent in the social housing sector.**

What is the definition of affordable?

**IX. Gedling Housing Development Company?**

What progress has been made in the development of the Gedling Housing Development Company, what will it hope to achieve?

**Transportation**

**X. Secure Construction of the Gedling Access Road.**

Update on progress of the Gedling Access Road.

**XI. Any news on a planned route of a tram line for Gedling Borough?**

**Town Centre management and development**

**XII. What is happening to the old Carlton Police Station? What are the delivery options and development delivery plans for the regeneration of the Carlton Square area?**

**4. FUTURE PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE**

Councillor Gary Gregory, Portfolio Holder for Community Development will be attending the next meeting of the committee to give Members the opportunity to examine areas within his Portfolio.

This includes:

- Community Centres
- Neighbourhood Wardens
- Community Events
- Arts, culture and play
- Community engagement and consultation, including liaison with the voluntary sector and Parish Councils.
- Equalities
- Members' services, including member training and development.

Members are asked to consider which service areas they would like to examine in this Portfolio. If they have any specific issues they would like Councillor Gregory address Members are requested to submit questions in advance of the meeting.

A customised report detailing performance outcomes for Q3 for the above Portfolio is attached at **Appendix 2** to assist Members' identify areas for consideration.

## **5. RECOMMENDATION.**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- consider, ask questions and comment on the information provided
- thank Councillor Hollingsworth and other guests for their attendance
- identify areas in the Community Development Portfolio for examination at the March meeting

## **APPENDICIES**

**Appendix 1: Q3 Growth and Regeneration**

**Appendix 2: Q3 Community Development**