



Minutes

Name of meeting	ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 28 MARCH 2012 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Ian Ward (Chairman), Reg Barry, Roger Dixcey, Paul Fuller, Jerry White
Cabinet members present	Cllrs George Brown, Edward Giles
Other members present	Cllr Julie Jones-Evans
Officers Present	John James, Stuart Love, Alex Minns, Paul Thistlewood
Apologies	Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox

29. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [8 February 2012](#) be confirmed.

30. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Roger Dixcey declared a personal interest in any issue relating to highway works due to the business he operated.

Cllr Edward Giles declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the forward plan item listed on the agenda relating to the Nettlestone and Seaview traffic regulation order.

31. **Car Park Income**

The panel had, at its previous meeting, requested that a regular report be submitted on the income generated from car parking. The Strategic Director presented a report detailing revenue over a three year period together with a breakdown for on street, off street, permits and penalty charge notices. Members welcomed the information provided.

It was noted that it was not possible to identify a cost of administration specifically for each site. The cost effectiveness of charging at some car parks where small amounts of revenue were generated was discussed. Officers reviewed the service as a whole and looked how each site fitted in with a range of policies and whether the asset was fully utilised to its full advantage. At present no new areas were being looked at with a view to implementing charges although the overall parking strategy was being reviewed. The cash collection from car parks was part of a wider contract which also involved leisure centres and schools.

Clarification was given by officers on the VAT element of parking charges and how this had impacted upon the level of income. The majority of those using short stay car parks parked for up to three hours whilst those using long stay parked for up to four hours.

The panel referred to the previous island residents parking permit. Whilst it was aware of the financial implications of re-introducing such a permit it believed that this option should be reflected within the review of the parking strategy. The chairman stressed the need for all members to become fully involved helping develop the strategy.

RESOLVED :

THAT the cabinet member for highways, transport and waste be recommended to consider including the option of re-introducing an Island residents parking permit within the review of the parking strategy.

32. **Quarterly Performance Management Report – Quarter 3 – 2011/12**

Consideration was given to the relevant sections of the quarterly performance report submitted to cabinet on 14 February 2012.

In relation to the corporate priorities report for regeneration and the economy the following issues were debated :-

- i. Progress with the bid for funding of the installation of superfast broadband;
- ii. Discussions with the Crown Estate Commission on obtaining the necessary permissions for the Solent Ocean Energy Centre;
- iii. Availability of apprenticeships not only within the council but generally;
- iv. The potential number of jobs that could be created as part of the highway PFI;
- v. Advice and support being given to businesses due to the cessation of Business Link.

In relation to the corporate priorities report for the waste strategy the following issues were debated :-

- i. Update on implementation of the new waste collection arrangements;
- ii. Commercial waste would be looked at as part of the new waste strategy;

- iii. Appointment of technical, legal and financial advisors for the re-let of the waste contract;
- iv. Measurement of waste in volume and tonnage.

RESOLVED :

- a. THAT an updated timescale for the superfast broadband project be circulated to the panel.
- b. THAT the panel be advised of the latest data for waste collection following the introduction of the new arrangements.
- c. THAT details be obtained from Portsmouth City Council on any economic or regeneration benefits arising from its highway PFI.

33. **Forward Plan and Consultations**

Members reviewed the items contained on the forward plan for April 2012 to July 2012. The cabinet member for highways, transport and waste indicated that the proposed delegated decision regarding the prohibition of driving order affecting St Thomas' Square and St James Square, Newport would not be proceeded with.

The panel looked at the details of the delegated decision report, 09/12, relating to the highways and transport capital programme 2012-2013. All the schemes had been assessed and prioritised. This resulted in those which could be implemented in 2012/13 with a reserve list in the event of any slippage.

The situation regarding highway capital programme when the PFI commenced was outlined. The Council would have a contract management team that would oversee the delivery of schemes within the set priorities.

Clarification was also given by the strategic director of highway works required as the result of building construction projects.

RESOLVED :

THAT the report be noted.

34. **Progress Report on Recommendations and Outcomes**

The panel received an update on actions being taken as the result of previous meetings.

RESOLVED :

THAT the report be noted.