
MATTERS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

PART A: MATTERS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

There are no matters referred by the Council to the Cabinet on this occasion.

PART B: MATTERS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

BUDGET OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 10 January 2019

Chairman of Meeting: Councillor Robert Reid

The items discussed at that meeting and referred to Cabinet are summarised below.

Budget Proposals 2019/2020

Considerations

- Report number CFM482
- In-year monitoring of the 2018/19 Budget by the Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Options available for Council Tax setting. A £5 increase was noted as the preferred option.
- The Government's indication that future Business Rate pilot schemes would be awarded to areas not previously involved and subsequent return to pooling arrangements
- The current levels of reserves and the forecasted reductions as well as when and how it would be replenished
- Proposed fees and charges
- National issues including Great Britain's exit from the European Union and the implementation of universal credit
- Progress against proposed corporate savings for 2018/19
- Discussion on an allocation of £15m capital expenditure in the draft HRA capital programme for identifying and procuring appropriate strategic sites across the District for housing development
- Considerations on how and when the £25m maturity loan would or could be re-financed
- Housing proposals and Right to Buy criteria and exemptions
- The Pension Fund, the current use of an earmarked reserve in respect of employer contributions for members of the Local Government Pension Scheme and the proposal to revert to budgeting the costs at service level from 2020/21

- The review of the scrutiny process that was currently being undertaken which identified the need for a Scrutiny Officer

Outcomes

- That the Growth OSC should receive details of options in respect of any proposals to re-finance the £25m maturity loan during 2019/20.
- For the Final Budget Proposals 2019/20 to include details of indicative income generated by the Council's Assets.

Recommendations

- (a) Following in-depth review and consideration of the Budget proposals for 2019/20, the Budget Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the proposals in the report in respect of the:
- General Fund – Revenue and Capital
 - Housing Revenue Account – Revenue and Capital
- (b) After consideration of the options available, the Committee supported the £5 increase in Council Tax.
- (c) The Committee also requested that financial provision is included in the Budget Proposals 2019/20 for a Scrutiny Officer.

Link to relevant papers:

- Report CFM482
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s21946/CFM482Budget%20OSC%20-%202020119bb.pdf>
- Report CFM482 – Appendix A
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s21942/CFM482%20Appendix%20A%20Capacity%20Bidsv2.pdf>
- Report CFM482 – Appendix B
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s21961/Updated%20CFM482%20Appendix%20B%20Fees%20Charges%20V2a.pdf>
- Report CFM482 – Appendix C
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s21944/CFM482%20Appendix%20C%20Capital%20Programme%20and%20reserves%20statement.pdf>
- Report CFM482 – Appendix D
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s21945/CFM482%20Appendix%20D%20HRA%20capital%20and%20reserves%20statement.pdf>

COMMUNITIES AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There are no matters referred by the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet on this occasion.

CULTURE AND VISITOR ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 24 January 2019

Chairman of Meeting: Councillor Linda Wootten

The items discussed at that meeting and referred to Cabinet are summarised below.

Cultural Strategy Engagement – Progress and Consultation

Considerations

- Report iSK0011
- The launch of the “Big Conversation” and the positive response from attendees
- The engagement and range diversity of those taking part in the “Big Conversation” Event
- The practicalities and consideration of how best to enable engagement with people in rural areas
- The event trailer and how it could be used to help engage with rural communities
- The Council being seen by those in attendance at the “Big Conversation” event as an enabling platform in respect of coordinating and facilitating the groups who want to be involved
- Consideration of the use of a “Place App” for the District
- The terminology used “A Decade of Adventure”
- The aims of the questionnaire, how the formatting could be enhanced, whether hard copies would be available and how it would be published
- When the feedback from the questionnaire consultation would be presented to the Committee
- Access to the Heritage Grants that were available
- The revised timetable set out in the report for the Cultural Strategy and ensuring that as much information was gathered to inform the strategy

Outcomes

- Tapping into the knowledge of Members with experience of formatting questionnaires.
- Feedback would be provided at the end of the four week consultation period
- The Committee looks forward to receiving an update on the feedback from the consultation on the Cultural Strategy.

Conclusions:

Following consideration of the questionnaire, the Committee welcomed and supported the progress of the Cultural Strategy and noted that a Member had volunteered to work with the Head of Arts in respect of enhancing and formatting the questionnaire.

Link to relevant papers:

- Cultural Strategy Engagement – progress and consultation report:
http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s22066/ISK0011_Cultural%20Strategy%20ConsultationandEngagement.pdf
- Appendix 1:
http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s22067/Appendix%201_Cultural%20Strategy%20Questionnaire%20Draft%20Copy%20for%20Review.pdf

Scoping Sports Development Activities

Considerations

- The national position regarding physical activity, obesity and engaging with young people in particular
- The appointment of a Sports Development Officer, whether one would be sufficient and the parameters of the role
- Would work with young offenders be undertaken
- The leisure facilities and activities currently available in the District
- Proposals to build new leisure facilities
- Liaising with established clubs and sports facilities and becoming a network point /platform to encourage further engagement with groups and users

Outcomes

- The role of Sports Development Officer would be monitored by InvestSK

Conclusions:

The Committee welcomed the scoping work being undertaken in respect of Sports in relation to the development of the Culture Strategy. It was also noted that the work would be undertaken by the Sports Development Officer over the next two year period and would potentially add value to other areas of the Council's work.

Link to relevant papers:

- Scoping sports development activities report:
http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s22068/ISK0010_ScopingSportsDevelopmentActivities2019.pdf

Visitor Economy Activities

Considerations

- Advertising at Kings Cross Station for events in the District
- The launch of the "Discover South Kesteven" Brochure and how businesses have been contacting InvestSK requesting inclusion in future brochures
- The points of distribution and showcasing

- Targeting of overseas experimental travelers as well as nationally

Conclusions:

The Committee acknowledged and welcomed the hard work undertaken in respect of development of the “Discover South Kesteven” Brochure and endorsed the work plan for the Visitor Economy Team for the forthcoming year.

Link to relevant papers:

- Visitor economy activities report:
http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s22069/ISK0012_Visitor%20Economy%20OSC%20Report%2024.01.2019.pdf

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 22 January 2019

Chairman of Meeting: Councillor Mike Exton

The items discussed at that meeting and referred to Cabinet are summarised below.

DEFRA Resources and Waste Strategy

A presentation was given highlighting the alignment between DEFRA’s Resources and Waste Strategy and the Lincolnshire Joint Municipal Waste Strategy.

Grounds Maintenance

An update was given on the current position.

Food Waste

An update was given on the current position.

GROWTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There are no matters referred by the Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet on this occasion.

RURAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 23 January 2019

Chairman of Meeting: Councillor Bob Sampson

The items discussed at that meeting and referred to Cabinet are summarised below.

Transformation and Innovation Report

Considerations

- Transformation themes, the aim to improve access to services and service delivery through improved technology
- The work being undertaken in respect of the service reviews, achievements to date and improvements to IT infrastructure platforms
- Enhancing the experience of customer services by considering the potential to combine services from other organisations by creating a Public Sector Hub. This was being viewed by the Local Government Association as an innovative way forward
- Providing appropriate accommodation and facilities in order that Public Sector Hubs could be considered further
- Consultation on new proposals such as an accessible Public Sector Hubs and the changes as a result of the Public Realm works
- Providing Public Sector Hubs accessibility for residents in rural areas, without technology through the potential use of the Visitor Economy Trailer as an SKDC point of contact on a regular basis
- The phasing of the overall transformation programme, and the proposals to save £200k and whether this saving would be recurring
- Whether the work plan for the areas to be reviewed included details of potential impacts?

Outcomes

- That the Deputy Leader would be happy to provide the Committee with a regular overview of the Transformation and Innovation progress at future meetings

Conclusions:

The Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the content of the report and supported the ongoing transformation journey. The Committee also looked forward to receiving updates on the progression of the ongoing transformation journey at future meetings.

Link to relevant papers:

- Transformation and Innovation report:
<http://moderngovsvr:8080/documents/s22058/ACEX011%20-%20Services%20Transformation%20and%20Change%20-%20v5%20AR%20amends.pdf>

Update from the Armed Forces Officer

Considerations

- Background to the Armed Forces Discount Card Scheme and how it was currently implemented in Rutland
- The provisions within the Armed Forces Covenant and the definition of “families”

- InvestSK breakfast meeting briefings on what was involved in taking the Discount Scheme forward and enhancing local business participation.
- Guidance Businesses notes, templates and business interaction with the scheme and increased footfall locally
- The Launch of the scheme both online and through visiting other organisations and providing details of the scheme onto all barracks in the District
- Uptake of the scheme to date
- The possibilities for additional recipients for the scheme such as immediate relatives
- Work being undertaken to engage with potential participants living outside the area of work placement

Outcomes

The Committee to receive progress updates at future meetings

Recommendations

The Committee recommends to the Cabinet Member for Housing that South Kesteven District Council introduce an Armed Forces Discount Card Scheme as set out in Appendix 1 of this report

Link to relevant papers:

- Update report from the Armed Forces Officer:
<http://moderngovsvr:8080/documents/s22054/ACEX009%20-%20Armed%20Forces%20Discount%20Card%20Report%20-%20v4.pdf>
- Appendix 1 – Armed Forces Discount Card:
http://moderngovsvr:8080/documents/s22057/Appendix%201_Armed%20Force%20Discount%20Card%20-%20Scheme%20proposal.pdf

Bourne CiCle Festival

Considerations

- The event was being run under the British Cycling's umbrella and had been moved forward due to conflicts with other national cycling events
- Some Members were disappointed that the route for the races did not include Stamford
- Safety issues, car parking, toilet facilities and whether this event had been approved by the Safety Advisory Group or the County Cabinet Member at Lincoln CC
- Potential changes to the route following consultation with the Safety Advisory Group
- The Consultation process and whether all District Councillors, parish councils and the farming community had been contacted
- What recourse there would be should cyclists inadvertently damage street furniture in villages as they went through
- What advertising for the event was being undertaken
- How long the road closures would last and that it would be a rolling road closure and the road would be open again once the peloton had passed through

- How the event had been chosen and what input Bourne Town Council had in the decision making process

Outcomes

- The Committee felt that such events should be an item on future all Councillor Briefing, and that the Bourne CiCLE event could be delivered at the next all Councillor Briefing

Recommendations

The Committee recommends to the Cabinet Member for Housing that South Kesteven District Council introduces an Armed Forces Discount Card Scheme as set out in Appendix 1 of this report