

CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 3 March 2015 in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Gilligan (Chairman), A. Lowe (Vice-Chairman), E. Cargill, Dennett, S. Hill, A. McInerney, N. Plumpton Walsh, Wainwright and Rowe

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Joe Roberts

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Chris Loftus

Officers present: M. Reaney, I. Leivesley, E. Dawson, G. Ferguson and C. Patino

Also in attendance: None

ITEM DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

Action

CS35 MINUTES

The Minutes from the meeting held on 6th January 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

CS36 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.

CS37 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Board was presented with the Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which had been considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

CS38 SSP MINUTES

The Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which had been considered by the Halton Strategic Partnership were presented to the Board for information.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted.

CS39 BUSINESS PLANNING 2015-18

Members were provided with an update on Business Planning for the period 2015-18 and were asked to consider the Directorate priorities, objectives and targets for services for this period that fell within the remit of this Policy and Performance Board (PPB).

It was reported that each Directorate developed a medium term business plan, in parallel with the budget that was subject to annual review and refresh. PPB input into the business planning process and the setting of priorities for the Directorate was an important part of this process. Key priorities for development or improvement for the various functional areas reporting to this PPB were presented to and considered by the Board in autumn 2014, from which the Draft Directorate Business Plans had been developed. Given the remit of this Board, Business Plans for Policy and Resources and the Communities Directorate were presented for consideration.

Members were informed that plans could only be finalised once budget decisions had been confirmed in March and that some target information may need to be reviewed as a result of final outturn data becoming available post March 2015.

The Board requested that their appreciation be passed onto staff for their excellent work in sometimes difficult circumstances, which was a result of the reduction in budget the Council had received.

RESOLVED: That the Draft Business Plan be received and forwarded to the Executive Board for approval.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

CS40 TOPIC GROUPS 2015/16

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which sought to develop a work programme of topics for the Board to examine in 2015/16.

The Board had previously established a Topic Group which oversaw the operation of the Council's Discretionary Support Scheme. The Group had been highly effective and provided significant guidance to the Executive Board and Officers, in relation to the delivery of the service. In addition, the Board had set up a Topic Group related to the review of Fees and Charges. This was a major piece of work that it was still in its infancy but would require significant Member

and Officer commitment.

It was felt that both Topic Groups were important to continue and would provide a sufficient work programme for Members through the next Municipal Year.

Arising from the discussion, the Board requested the information on the number of persons registered at Halton libraries from outside the borough.

Strategic Director
Communities

RESOLVED: That Members' confirmed their support for the continuation of the Fees and Charges Topic Group and the Discretionary Support Topic Group.

CS41 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR QUARTER 3 OF 2014/15

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which presented the Performance Monitoring Reports for Quarter 3 of 2014/15.

The reports related to the following functional areas which reported to the Board and detailed progress against service objectives and milestones, and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period:

- Finance;
- Human Resources and Organisational Development;
- ICT and Administrative Support;
- Legal and Democracy;
- Policy and Performance;
- Property Services; and
- Catering, Stadium and Registration Services.

Arising from the reports it was commented that:

- the number of pre-litigation Public Liability & Employers' Liability claims in-house up to the value of £25,000 be forwarded to Members'; and
- a report on Widnes Market Hall be brought to the June meeting of the Board detailing occupancy rates and action that was being taken to address under occupancy and an updated rent arrears figure.

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resource

Strategic Director
Children and
Economy

RESOLVED: That the third quarter performance monitoring reports be received and noted.

Meeting ended at 7.05 p.m.