

SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board held on Wednesday, 23 June 2021 at 6.00 pm in Meeting Point House, Southwater Square, Telford, TF3 4HS

Present: Councillors S Bentley, A D McClements, S J Reynolds,
C R Turley and D R W White (Chair).

In Attendance: A Lowe (Director: Policy & Governance)

Apologies: Councillors T L B Janke, G C W Reynolds and J M Seymour

SMB4 Election of Chair

RESOLVED – that Councillor D White be elected as Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board for the 2021/22 municipal year.

SMB5 Declarations of Interest

None.

SMB6 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board held on 12 November 2019 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

SMB7 Scrutiny Work Programme - 2021/22

The Chair presented the proposed Scrutiny Work Programme for 2021/22. The work programme included items that had not been completed in the previous year, as well as additional items that have been proposed.

Members felt that there were many significant items on the proposed work programme.

In respect of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, it was noted that some items had been delayed during the previous year and needed to be carried over. The School Streets Review was almost completed and it was hoped that recommendations would be presented to Cabinet shortly.

For the Business and Finance Scrutiny Committee, the Committee held several meetings looking at the upcoming budget. The Committee had also met with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and it was hoped that this would take place annually going forward. The Committee were looking forward to a report on Commercial Services and Pride in Our High Streets.

Members felt that the proposed item on procurement was cross-committee and would require good links with all committees. It was suggested that this could be a review undertaken by the Scrutiny Management Board.

Regarding the Communities Scrutiny Committee, a review had been completed in collaboration with the Environment Scrutiny Committee on the Local Plan. The Environment Scrutiny Committee had completed a review of the use of single use plastics as well as a review on on-street recycling. A discussion took place around electric vehicle charging.

For the Health Scrutiny Committee, the committee reviewed the adult social care services and its operation.

Members discussed that the proposed item on procurement covered all committees and therefore, a shared approach should be taken on this item.

The Chair invited the Associate Director: Policy & Governance to discuss recent changes within the Scrutiny Team. The Associate Director advised of the new staffing structure within the team. The work programme reflected the move to scrutiny taking a policy-based approach.

The Associate Director: Policy & Governance noted that new technology had been helpful in getting scrutiny moving forward within the Authority, for example workshops for the school streets review had been held virtually which had allowed for officers from Local Authorities located some distance away to provide evidence for the working group.

RESOLVED that, subject to the discussion set out above, the suggestions set out in the report be referred to each of the relevant Scrutiny Committees to prioritise their own work programmes having regard to the over-arching priorities

SMB8 Scrutiny Annual Report and Review of Effectiveness

The Associate Director: Policy and Governance presented the draft Annual Scrutiny Report and the Annual Review of Effectiveness. These documents were presented to the committee in draft form ahead of being presented to Full Council in July.

Some grammatical errors were highlighted.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that the Annual Scrutiny Report and the Annual Review of Effectiveness be approved.

The meeting ended at 6.57 pm

Chairman:

Date: Wednesday, 8 June 2022