

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY

20 JANUARY 2020 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr C Ladkin - Chairman  
Mr P Williams – Vice-Chairman  
Mr JMT Collett, Mr DS Cope, Mr SM Gibbens, Mr K Morrell, Mrs LJ Mullaney,  
Mr MC Sheppard-Bools and Mr R Webber-Jones

Officers in attendance: Tan Ashraf, Ilyas Bham, Simon D Jones, Julie Kenny, Karen Mason and Rebecca Owen

Simon Churchman and Nicola Parratt from Places Leisure were also in attendance

266 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

It was noted that Councillor Gibbens would be arriving late.

267 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor P Williams, seconded by Councillor Webber-Jones and

RESOLVED - the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2019 be confirmed and signed by the chairman.

268 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

269 HINCKLEY LEISURE CENTRE PERFORMANCE

The annual update report on the performance of Hinckley Leisure Centre was provided to members along with a video and presentation by Simon Churchman, Contracts Manager for Places Leisure. It was highlighted that the year had been challenging, however footfall and financial performance had improved on the previous year. To build on this success, creative new membership packages were to be rolled out in 2020 to attract people from the wider community.

The following points were noted in response to questions from members:

- Further engagement to be carried out with hard to reach rural communities
- Parking could be an issue at peak times
- The need to be more creative to attract young people

The report was noted and the chair thanked the attendees.

Councillor Gibbens entered the meeting at 6.44pm.

270 PERFORMANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2ND QTR SUMMARY FOR 2019/20

Members received the second quarter outturn report in relation to performance indicators, service improvement plans, corporate risks and service area risks. It was noted performance was good generally and some areas were performing higher than

expected including customer services, with a lower number of lost calls, and revenues and benefits in the time taken to process new claims. It was highlighted that with regards to the GP exercise referral scheme the numbers had reduced as GPs were adapting to the new system they were using. It was noted that the number of households in temporary accommodation was increasing as there were more applicants with vulnerabilities. During discussion the following points were raised:

- A report on the five year housing land supply issue was already scheduled for the Scrutiny Commission on 12 March
- A Local Plan update was requested. It was agreed that this would be included in the abovementioned report to the Scrutiny Commission
- The Building Control partnership with Blaby District Council and three Leicestershire authorities was working well
- The high levels of risk identified in the planning service area were queried and in response it was suggested that there may be an issue in relation to recording risk, as in reality they may not remain net red after mitigation.

In response to a member's question it was explained that we could not benchmark across all the different areas as local authorities used different criteria, but we continued to benchmark where data was available.

The five year housing land supply was contained in the corporate risk register and members agreed it would be useful for them to see the register at a future meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (i) The report be noted;
- (ii) The Corporate Risk Register to be presented to a future meeting.

271 FINANCIAL OUTTURN OCTOBER 2019

The financial outturn position as at October 2019 was provided to members and it was reported that some deficit could be reduced by recent large planning applications.

It was noted that the external audit had concluded without any issues of significance.

Attention was drawn to page 34 of appendix 1 where three rows, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 were omitted. A revised report would be circulated to members.

The report was noted.

272 BUSINESS RATES AND POOLING UPDATE QUARTER 2 - 2019/20

Members were informed of the business rates performance 1 April - 30 September 2019. The uncertainty around predicting business rates income was noted.

It was highlighted that it would be helpful if reports did not use acronyms without explanation.

The report was noted.

273 SUNDRY DEBTS - QUARTER 3 2019/20

Members received the position on sundry debts as at 31 December 2019 and the report was noted.

274 FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was considered and it was highlighted that the frontline service review for Environmental Health would be presented at the next meeting on 9 March.

The report was noted and the chair thanked all officers.

(The Meeting closed at 8.18 pm)

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CHAIRMAN