

STOUR VALLEY AND POOLE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 September 2019 at 2.00 pm

Present:-

Cllr A Kerby – Chairman

Cllr D Brown – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr M Haines, Cllr Lacey-Clarke, Cllr T O'Neill and Cllr A Starr

Officers in attendance: Paul Hudson (Partnership Manager), Lisa Cotton (Customer Access Manager), Paul Knevott (Benefits Services Manager), Diane Milne (Collection Services Manager) and Adam Richens (Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer, BCP Council).

11. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mike Parkes (Dorset Council) and from Councillor Kieron Wilson (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council). Apologies were also received from Aiden Dunn (Executive Director (Corporate Development) and Section 151 Officer (Dorset Council).

12. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

13. SVPP Forward Plan

The Joint Committee received a tabled and revised Forward Plan and scrutiny update for 2019/20. The Plan set out proposed future dates within the context within the context of the schedule of work for the Partnership Scrutiny Panel and recognising the requirement to report to particular Cabinet meetings of the respect Council Partners.

RESOLVED that the SVPP Forward Plan and Scrutiny update be noted and that, in accordance with that Plan, future meetings of the Joint Committee be held on 25th November 2019 at 2pm and on 16th March 2020 at 2pm.

14. Exclusion of Press and the Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs such interest in disclosing the information.

15. Review of Options Appraisal for the Future Delivery of Revenues and Benefits Services in Dorset

The Joint Committee gave consideration to the appraisal of the three service delivery Options going forward with each Option assessed in detail against a range of criteria.

An update from the meeting of the SVPP Joint Scrutiny Panel, which had met on the previous day, was also provided. The Panel had particularly highlighted the need for additional information in some areas of the appraisals provided to them.

There was discussion about the decision making route recognising the important stages for involvement of the Partner Councils at both Cabinet and full Council level and taking account of the context of wider parallel service reviews already in progress across the Councils.

In considering the report, members of the Joint Committee underlined the importance of maintaining the positive dialogue between Partners as the process of assessing the options continued. Members were also supportive of the aspiration to achieve a resolution of options assessment stage as quickly as possible.

RESOLVED

- (a) That, following review and comment from Members, the Joint Committee note the options appraisal as presented to the Section 151 Officers on 10th September 2019;**
- (b) That members of the Stour Valley and Poole Partnership Joint Committee request that the final recommendations of the Section 151 Officers be presented to a future Joint Committee for further consideration and comment prior to presentation to each Council's respective Cabinet;**
- (c) That it be acknowledged that there was insufficient information in option 3 to consider the proposals;**
- (d) That within the next three months, Business Cases and full Risk Assessments that are clearly balanced against each other and that recognise all potential costs (including customer impact and delivery risks) be prepared for each option.**

[Voting : Unanimous]

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm

CHAIRMAN