

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday 2 June 2020 at 6.00 pm (Online / Virtual meeting).

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Wingfield (Chair)
Councillor Jane Salmon (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Humaira Ali
Councillor Jack Buck (Reserve)
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Helen Dennis
Councillor Gavin Edwards
Councillor Alice Macdonald
Councillor Jason Ochere
Councillor Victoria Olisa
Councillor Leanne Werner

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor James Coldwell
Councillor Eleanor Kerlake

OFFICER SUPPORT: Norman Coombe, Head of Corporate Team, Legal Services
Everton Roberts, Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Acting)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter Babudu and Martin Brecknell, Co-opted Member. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Humaira Ali.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair gave notice of the late items contained on supplemental agenda No. 1 in respect of:

Item 5 – Delivering a Climate Strategy for Southwark – Additional Consultation Information

Item 7 – Amendment to Terms of Reference of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Reconfiguration of Lambeth Hospital Mental Health In-Patient Services

Item 8 – Work Programme 2020/21

The chair also reported that additional correspondence had been circulated in respect of Item 6 – Cabinet response to Recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Brandon Estate.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

4. MINUTES

It was report that the minutes of the meetings held on 7 and 12 May 2020 were still in draft form and not able to submitted for approval.

The chair informed the meeting that the key action points arising from those meetings had been actioned and the relevant decision makers informed of the overview and scrutiny committee recommendations.

5. DELIVERING A CLIMATE STRATEGY FOR SOUTHWARK - ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION INFORMATION

RESOLVED:

That the additional consultation information – Letter from Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency be noted.

6. CABINET RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON THE BRANDON ESTATE

Following the publication of the agenda item, a number of communications had been circulated by ward councillors in respect of some recent events at Brandon Estate and also from Mr Tom Lloyd of the Brandon Estate in connection with the Jack Hobbs Club, situated on the Estate. The cabinet member for community safety and public health had also circulated updated information in respect of the cabinet response to the recommendations of the overview and scrutiny committee.

The committee received an update from Councillor Evelyn Akoto, cabinet member for community safety and public health in connection with the overview and scrutiny committee recommendations.

The committee also heard from local ward councillors Alice Macdonald, Eleanor Kerslake and James Coldwell in respect of the Jack Hobbs Club, engaging the community, activities for young people, heating and hot water, and the system put in place for the managing of particular issues on the Brandon Three and the noticeable improvements. The local ward councillors highlighted the issues contained in their letter circulated to members of overview and scrutiny committee.

The committee also heard from Mr Tom Lloyd, Chair of the Brandon One TRA, in respect of the Jack Hobbs Club, lack of space and resources for the TRA to operate, and youth provision. The committee also heard from local residents Patrick Goodwin on the importance of having the Jack Hobbs hall fixed to enable activities for the whole community post lockdown, Babs Chalho, former treasurer of Brandon TRA in respect of representation on the TRA and relationship with the Council and June Lewis, Chair of Brandon Two TRA in respect of heating and hot water outages and leaseholder service charges, Ola Olungan regarding communication with parents around youth activities, and Siobhan Convery who spoke in support of the work of the Brandon One chair and the need for the hall to be up and running to enable events to be put on for the community.

Members of overview and scrutiny committee asked questions of the residents and cabinet member for community safety and public health.

Noting that overview and scrutiny committee was not the decision maker in respect of the issues raised, the chair summarised the discussion and highlighted the following:

- The need for a physical or virtual meeting between residents, officers and local ward councillors.
- The heating and hot water issue to be picked up by the housing scrutiny commission.
- The general issues raised could be picked up by local ward councillors.
- In respect of Jack Hobbs, imperative that core group is formed and that communications are up and running as quickly as possible.
- The need for the best use of the Jack Hobbs centre, residents feel that they are being listened to and engaged.
- The overall lead officer and member had been identified as Stephen Gaskell and the lead member Councillor Evelyn Akoto.

RESOLVED:

1. That the cabinet response to recommendations of the overview and scrutiny committee, including the update provided by the cabinet member for community safety and public health be noted.
2. That residents be invited to the Housing Scrutiny Commission to discuss the issues related to heating and hot water outages.

7. AMENDMENT TO TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RECONFIGURATION OF LAMBETH HOSPITAL MENTAL HEALTH IN-PATIENT SERVICES

Councillor Victoria Olisa, Chair of the Health and Social Care scrutiny commission introduced the report.

RESOLVED:

That the terms of reference of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Reconfiguration of Lambeth Hospital Mental Health In-patient Services) as set out at Appendix 1 be amended for the reasons detailed in paragraphs 4 to 13 of the report.

8. WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

The committee discussed the work programme.

- It was noted that the LGBT consultation would be coming to the July meeting.
- Local Funds to be rolled forward to next years work programme.
- The chair stressed that the new municipal year would only be approximately 6 months, September 2020 to March 21 and that some of this time would be taken up by the budget. The chair also stressed the need for the current years scrutiny reviews to completed in time for the annual report to council on the work of OSC and the scrutiny commissions.
- Additional OSC meeting to be arranged for September/October.
- In terms of Covid-19 it was agreed that OSC wait to see what Cabinet decide at their June meeting before shaping work programme around Covid-19.

RESOLVED:

That the work programme as at 2 June 2020 be noted.

The meeting ended at 7.54 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: