

## Environment Select Committee

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### MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2019 AT KENNET ROOM - COUNTY HALL, BYTHESEA ROAD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 8JN.

#### **Present:**

Cllr John Smale (Chairman), Cllr Bob Jones MBE (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Derek Brown OBE, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Brian Mathew, Cllr Nick Murry, Cllr Tom Rounds and Cllr Ross Henning (Substitute)

#### **Also Present:**

Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Horace Prickett

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#### 71 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Steve Oldrieve.

Cllr Oldrieve was substituted by Cllr Ross Henning.

#### 72 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

##### **Resolved:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 September 2019 were approved.

#### 73 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 74 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman provided an update on the South Wiltshire Recovery Programme.

#### 75 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

## 76 **Highways Annual Review of Service**

The Committee considered the report of the Director Highways and Waste, which provided a review of the performance of the highways service and an update on performance of the contractors and suppliers involved in delivering the service.

The Head of Highways Assets Management and Commissioning explained that the local highway network is vital for businesses and communities, and effective maintenance to ensure its availability is essential to the economic development of the county. Wiltshire Council recognised the importance of maintaining and managing its highway network effectively and is assisted in this task by a number of specialist contractors and suppliers. He referred to the summary of highways performance detailed in Appendix 5 and in particular those areas that were assessed as being below target. These included Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) incidences and reducing the number of potholes.

Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste and the Head of Highways Assets Management and Commissioning responded to a number of issues and comments from the Committee. In particular, the following issues and comments were raised:

- The possibility of increasing CATG budgets
- KSI data confined to those highways in Wiltshire
- Monitoring of highway resilience and improvements to highway drainage systems
- The work being undertaken to repair damage to verges on B and C roads and the potential need to use kerbing to limit future damage
- Limiting the use of HGV's using B and C roads
- The impact of reducing budgets on the repair and renewal of pavements, particularly in towns
- The LED Lighting Programme and potential use of existing columns for the installation of community wifi and electric charging points
- Future consideration of dualing rural pavements for cyclists and pedestrians
- Populating road side verges with wild flowers
- The impact of gravel driveways on adjacent pavements
- The usability of the My Wiltshire App
- Continual maintenance of highway signage

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member and officers for attending the meeting and responding to comments and issues raised.

**Resolved:**

- 1. To endorse the Highways Annual Review of Service and confirm that the performance of the Council's highways contractors has been good during 2018/19.**
- 2. To welcome the results summarised in the Highways Performance Management Framework but note the concern about the increase in those killed and seriously injured on the county's roads in 2018.**
- 3. To confirm that the performance of Ringway Infrastructure Services during the third year of its contract continued to be good and a further extension of six months should be awarded in accordance with the conditions of contract.**
- 4. To welcome the start of the Council's LED street lighting project which will reduce energy costs and significantly reduce the Council's carbon footprint.**
- 5. To request a report on the highways service and the Performance Management Framework in a year's time.**

**77 Executive Response to the Homelessness Strategy Task Group's Final Report**

The Committee considered the report of Cllr Richard Clewer, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Heritage, Arts, Tourism, Housing and MCI which provided a response to the final report of the Homelessness Strategy Task group.

Cllr Clewer introduced the report and responded to each of the Task Group's recommendations detailed in the report. He confirmed that all issues raised, and recommendations made by the Task Group would be included in the Strategy for implementation.

**Resolved:**

**To note the executive response to the Final Report – Homelessness Strategy Task Group, as detailed in the report.**

**78 Updates from task groups and representatives on programme boards**

The Committee received updates from (i) Cllr Wright, Chairman of the Homelessness Strategy Task Group and the Global Warming and Climate Emergency Task Group, and (ii) Cllr Bob Jones, member of the Housing Aids and Adaptations Task Group, on recent activity for the Task Groups.

**Resolved:**

- 1. To endorse Cllr Tony Jackson replacing Cllr Allison Bucknell and becoming a member of the Global Warming and Climate Emergency Task Group**

**2. To endorse the following membership of the Housing Aids and Adaptations Task Group:**

- Cllr Trevor Carbin
- Cllr Bob Jones
- Cllr Carole King
- Cllr Gordon King
- Cllr Pip Ridout

**3. To endorse the Housing Aids and Adaptations Task Group Terms of Reference (as detailed in [supplement one](#)).**

**79 Forward Work Programme**

The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to the Forward Work Programme and asked for confirmation about how to progress a number of items detailed below:

- Environment Bill
- CATG's: 10 Years on
- Rail Strategy

**Resolved:**

- 1. That the 'Environment Bill' report be deferred until the Committee's meeting on 3 March 2020.**
- 2. That the 'CATGs: 10 Year On' include the results of a survey, to be circulated to all members, asking for their feedback on CATGs for their community area (members could also share this survey with their Parish Councils for comment)**
- 3. To note that the Rail Strategy would be considered by the Committee at it's meeting on 3 March 2020.**

**80 Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

**81 Date of Next Meeting**

The Chairman reported that the next meeting, scheduled for 14 January 2020 was likely to be cancelled due to lack of business. However, this would be subject to items appearing on the Cabinet Forward Plan that would be of

interest to the Committee and if it was felt that there were no items, then the next meeting would be held on 3 March 2020, starting at 2.00pm.

(Duration of meeting: 2.00 - 3.00 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Stuart Figini of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718221, e-mail [stuart.figini@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.figini@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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