

## ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

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### MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2013 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, MONKTON PARK, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 1ER.

#### **Present:**

Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge (Vice Chairman), Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Alan Hill (Chairman), Cllr Bob Jones MBE (Substitute), Cllr Jacqui Lay (Substitute) and Cllr Bridget Wayman

#### **Also Present:**

Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe and Cllr Dick Tonge

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#### 69 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Magnus Macdonald, Ian McLennan, Horace Prickett, Mollie Groom and James Sheppard.

Councillor Macdonald was substituted by Councillor Bob Jones MBE.

Councillor Prickett was substituted by Councillor Jacqui Lay.

#### 70 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared.

#### 71 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no announcements.

#### 72 **Public Participation**

There were no questions or statements submitted.

#### 73 **Review of Business Plan Priorities**

On 25 June 2013 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee met to consider the Wiltshire Council Draft Business Plan 2013-17 prior to its

determination at Cabinet on 23 July 2013 and the establishment of the council's strategic direction and priorities for the next four years.

The Management Committee resolved that each Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee should consider the draft Business Plan in turn, reporting its comments on the twelve deliverables of the Business Plan as provided by the Council Executive and included within the agenda pack. The individual committees would then report on their conclusions to the Management Committee ahead of final recommendations to Cabinet.

The Chairman introduced the draft Business Plan and stated deliverables, with comments and assistance on the Plan provided by Cllr Dick Tonge, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Procurement and Welfare Reform, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philipe, Cabinet Member for Economy, Skills and Transport, Dr Carlton Brand (Corporate Director), Alistair Cunningham (Service Director: Economy and Regeneration) and Alissa Davies (Principal Policy Officer).

The Committee then considered the draft business plan and the key deliverables, making points including but not limited to the following:

- The need for responses to climate change to be embedded in the council's policy thinking for the next four years;
- The enhanced role of the Area Boards was a positive intention;
- Given the increased role of Town and Parish Councils with delegated services, a re-evaluation of how they operated might be necessary;
- The need for the Development Service to take into account key deliverable ten with regards public health;
- The aspiration to maintain high standards and develop the skills of the workforce, within the constraints of more limited financing, would be a challenge that would need careful consideration;

The Committee also felt that as the Business Plan was a live document, scrutiny of it should also be ongoing, and that future additions should include examples demonstrating successes the council had achieved, comparisons with and the impact of national policies and events on Wiltshire, and an increased emphasis on how all plans would need to be achieved in the context of deliverable Eleven - "*Doing things differently for less to deliver at least £120m budget cost reductions over the four years*" - perhaps by making it the first key deliverable to inform perception of the remaining points.

The Committee also made points regarding the specific details and wording of the draft plan, to be reported to the Management Committee by the Chairman.

The Chairman thanked members for their valuable input and clarified that the Chairmen and Vice- Chairmen of the Select Committees and Management Committee would be meeting on 8 July 2013 to consider all the views and comments for submission of a final Overview and Scrutiny report to the Cabinet on 23 July 2013.

At the conclusion of debate, it was,

**Resolved:**

**That taking into account the points raised above, the Environment Select Committee:**

- 1) AGREED with the twelve key deliverables of the draft business plan with no additions or subtractions required, and**
- 2) Acknowledged the cross cutting themes of the deliverables, but noted that it was felt points in relation to deliverables Four, Five and Ten were outside the remit of the Committee**

The Chairman thanked members for their valuable input and explained that the Chairmen and Vice- Chairmen of the Select Committees and Management Committee would be meeting on 8 July 2013 to consider all the views and comments for submission of a final Overview and Scrutiny report to the Cabinet on 23 July 2013.

**74 Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

**75 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as 27 August 2013 at Salisbury City Hall.

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 - 11.40 am)

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