

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY PANEL

THURSDAY 4 APRIL 2019 AT 10.03AM

PRESENT: Councillors Paton (Chairman), Harid, Layden, J Mallinson

ALSO

PRESENT: Councillor Glover, Leader

OFFICERS: Deputy Chief Executive
Policy and Communications Manager

HWSP.25/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Carrigan, Crawford, Finlayson and Layden.

HWSP.26/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted.

HWSP.27/19 PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was agreed that the items of business in Part A be dealt with in public and Part B be dealt with in private.

HWSP.28/19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED – 1) That the minutes of the meeting of 10 January 2019 be signed.

2) That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2019, be approved.

HWSP.29/19 CALL IN OF DECISIONS

There were no items which had been the subject of call-in.

HWSP.30/19 FLOOD RECOVERY LESSONS LEARNT

The Policy and Communications Manager submitted the Flood Recovery Lessons Learnt report (ED.14/19). Recovery and reinstatement projects had been reported to the Panel over the last three work programmes. Key Services areas based on Panel remits had been selected as a focus and in each case the service manager had been asked to respond to three questions as detailed in section 2.2 of the report.

The report detailed the strength and scale of Storm Desmond in 2015 and the recovery challenges which faced Cumbria had been unprecedented. The Cumbria Resilience Forum Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG) led on the acute phase response which had been thoroughly debriefed and the improvement plan continued to drive the work of the partnership.

The Policy and Communications Manager advised that Cumbria Resilience Forum Executive intended to set up a Working Group to look consider the recommendations from its Impact Assessment of the floods with a view to prioritising future actions.

Service Managers from Emergency Planning, Neighbourhood Services, Environmental Health, Parks and Leisure and Homelessness Service responded to the questions and a summary of the responses was set out in section 2 of the report.

The Policy and Communications Manager recommended that the Panel consider retaining an item relating to flooding in its 2019/20 Work Programme as the community resilience and emergency planning related work continued to develop.

In considering the report Members raised the following comments and questions:

- In relation to the proposed flood defences what level of assurance was able to be provided regarding the future protection of the city?

The Policy and Communications Manager responded that the Environment Agency provided a level of flood defence assurance based on risk assessment that had been included in the Flood Recovery Lesson Learnt report which was to be presented to the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 11 April 2019. The work to install the proposed defences in the district would take place in four phases, the first of which was the subject of a current application for Planning Permission.

A Member commented that in providing a level of assurance, organisations needed to clear on its extent, for example, by indicating the level of magnitude of a flood event that defences were able to withstand. Factors such as climate change meant that it was more difficult to be certain of the likely scale of possible future flood events.

Responding to a further question from a Member on the timescale for the implementation of the proposed flood defences, the Policy and Communications Manager undertook to circulate a presentation from the Environment Agency given to the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel at its meeting of 22 November 2018, which outlined the detail and timescale of the four phases of work.

The Panel discussed a number of incidences of flooding in particular localities and the importance of flood recovery and resilience work in rural areas parts of the district as well as urban areas. Members further noted that the extent and impact of individual flood events varied and considered that were another incidence to occur, it would be valuable to for the organisations involved in the recovery to conduct a further lessons learnt exercise.

The Council's response to the flood was praised by the Panel, especially given the impact on the Civic Centre. Furthermore, the loyalty of businesses which had continued work and trade in the city, with some providing their own additional flood resilience measures were commended. A Member was of the view that the Council's prioritisation of providing recovery assistance to residential and business properties, before its own buildings had been the correct approach.

RESOLVED – 1) That the Flood Lessons Learnt report (ED.14/19) be noted.

2) That Council Officers be thanked for the work flood recovery work.

3) That the Policy and Communications Manager circulate the presentation, given by the Environment Agency to the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel on 22 November 2018.

HWSP.31/19 SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

The Policy and Communications Manager submitted the draft Health and Wellbeing Panel sections from the Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19 (OS.11/19). The Constitution required

Scrutiny Panels report annually to Council, the report before Members contained the draft sections relevant to the Panel.

The following items were suggested for the Panel's 2019/20 Work Programme:

- Cultural Strategy;
- Enforcement Strategy;
- Joint Inquiry Day with the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel on highways;
- Sands Centre Redevelopment;
- Climate Change;
- Violent Crime in cities.

A Member asked when work on The Sands Centre Redevelopment was due to commence?

The Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for progressing the matter through the Council's democratic decision-making processes, which would take place in the new municipal year.

RESOLVED – 1) That the items indicated above be included in the Panel's Work Programme for 2019/20.

2) That the Panel had considered the draft sections of the Scrutiny Annual Report (OS.11/19) and had agreed them for inclusion in the final report to full Council.

HWSP.32/19 OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME

The Policy and Communications Manager presented report OS.08/19 which provided an overview of matters relating to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.

The report detailed the most recent Notice of Executive Key Decisions, copies of which had been circulated to all Members, which had been published on 15 March 2019. There were two items within the Panel's remit and it had not been included in the Panel's Work Programme:

- KD.07/19 – Sands Centre Redevelopment;
- KD.10/19 – Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2019/2020.

The report included a table of the progress on resolutions from previous meetings of the Panel and the current Work Programme. The Policy and Communications Manager noted that item number three on the table was complete as a written response had been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED – 1) That the Overview Report and Work Programme (OS.08/19) be noted.

(The meeting ended at 10:31am).