

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY PANEL

THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2021 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT: Councillor Paton (Chair), Mrs Finlayson, Glover, Mrs McKerrell, Shepherd, Sunter, Mrs Tarbitt and Miss Whalen.

ALSO

PRESENT: Councillor J Mallinson, Leader
Councillor Ellis, Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder
Councillor Mrs Mallinson, Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder
Councillor Christian, Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder

OFFICERS: Policy and Communications Manager
Overview and Scrutiny Officer

HWSP.36/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Policy and Performance Officer.

HWSP.37/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted.

HWSP.38/21 PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

HWSP.39/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED 1) That it be noted that, Council at its meeting of 27 April 2021 received and adopted the minutes of the meetings held on 25 February 2021. The Chair signed the minute book 47(6).

2) That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2021 be approved with some grammatical corrections.

HWSP.40/21 CALL IN OF DECISIONS

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

HWSP.41/21 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT (CLIMATE CHANGE) STRATEGY UPDATE

The Policy and Communications Manager presented an update on the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy (PC.18/21)

The Policy and Communications Manager set out the progress made against the agreed action plan along with proposed amendments and additions to the action plan as a working document.

In considering the update the Panel raised the following comments and questions:

- The Panel requested a copy of the Terms of Reference and notes from the Member Advisory Group.
- How would the performance for the Strategy be monitored and reported on to ensure that the Council was achieving its targets to meet the Cumbria 2037 target for carbon neutrality?

The Policy and Communications Manager responded that the Council's target would be reported on using directly sourced data which would update key actions through the Strategy or the Carlisle Partnership. In addition Internal Audit were undertaking an audit on the work of the Strategy and the Action Plan with a view to making recommendations on Key Performance Indicators if required. The county wide baseline of 2037 would be monitored by the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership every three years, the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel would receive an update at that time.

- The Panel asked that representatives of the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting of the Panel.
- One of the Local Actions targeted fuel poverty in private sector housing, a Member felt strongly that work should also be undertaken with social landlords to ensure their housing stock met acceptable standards.

The Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder explained that Riverside was a member of the Carlisle Partnership Board and were taking the issue of fuel poverty and climate change seriously.

- The Panel asked for a written update on the funding opportunities that had been successful, how much was achieved and how the funding had been used for each project.
- Would charging points for electric vehicles be made available in rural areas?

The Policy and Communications Manager responded that rural charging points were a challenge nationally and agreed to provide the Panel with a written response detailing projects which would support rural charging points.

- A Member congratulated the authority on their laptop roll out scheme and questioned how old equipment was recycled or reused.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder informed the Panel of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment legislation that aimed to make producers pay for the collection, treatment and recovery of waste electrical equipment. The Council had a contract with a company to ensure the safest and most appropriate method for the disposal of computer equipment.

- The Panel welcomed the offer from Cumbria County Council's lead officer to raise awareness of the Cumbria Coastal Strategy and the Shoreline Management Plan.
- The Citizens' Assembly and Citizen's Juries had not progressed, a Member asked for clarity regarding the process for the District Council and County Council Juries.

The Policy and Communications Manager explained that each of the Councils were considering the Juries from their own perspective and there was no prescriptive order for operating them.

- Had there been any further action taken with regard to the future of the Victorian Health Suite and who would manage it when GLL no longer had the contract?

The Leader informed the Panel that he had met with a representative of the Friends of Carlisle Turkish Baths to discuss the matter and had since received a letter from them. He stressed that it was very early in the process, however, there was funding available in the Borderlands Project to renew the boilers in the Suite and provide an update inside and outside of the building. Careful consideration needed to be given to the future operation of the building and the contract to run the service.

- In response to a question the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder explained that the Councillor responsible for climate change in Carlisle Pennsylvania had contacted the City Council to share information, advice and ideas on how climate change could be addressed by the authorities.
- A Member highlighted the serious impact that the Himalayan balsam, an invasive weed, had on the foliage and erosion of local riverbanks. He urged the Council to include the removal of the weed in their climate change work.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder understood the serious nature of the issues caused by the weed and outlined the work being carried out by Eden Rivers Trust to remove the weed. Unfortunately the weed required annual work to remove it and could take many years to be eradicated.

- Referring to the urban bee and butterfly oasis at Swifts golf course, the Policy and Communications Manager assured the Panel that the native species that would be introduced into the area were adaptable to the area being a flood plain.

RESOLVED – 1) That the Panel scrutinised the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy update and commented on the progress made against the agreed action plan and the proposed amendments and additions to the action plan. (PC.18/21)

2) That future monitoring of the 2037 baseline and appropriate Key Performance Indicators be included in the Panel's regular performance reports.

- 3) That the Policy and Communications Manager provide the Panel with the following:
- The Terms of Reference and notes from the Members Advisory Group
 - An update on the funding opportunities that had been successful, how much had been achieved and how the funding had been used for each project
 - Information on how rural electric vehicle charging points could be introduced

4) That representatives of the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting of the Panel.

5) That the offer from Cumbria County Council to raise awareness of the Cumbria Coastal Strategy and the Shoreline Management Plan be welcomed and added to a future meeting of the Panel.

HWSP.42/21 END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21

The Policy and Communications Manager presented the End of Year 2020/21 performance against the current Service Standards and a summary of the Carlisle Plan 2016-19 actions as defined in the 'plan on a page'. Performance against the Panel's 2020/21 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are also included.

There were two items which were exceptions (red) in the report:

CSe18: Actual Old Fire Station (OFS) revenue as a percentage of OFS expenditure
SS03: Percentage of household waste sent for recycling (including bring sites)

In considering the end of year performance the Panel asked that an update on the future of the Old Fire Station be added to the Panel's Work Programme. In addition a Member sought clarity with regard to the life safety systems at the Sands Centre and the Policy and Communications Manager responded that the life safety systems detailed in the report referred to the fire and sprinkler system within the building and not external life safety systems.

RESOLVED – 1) That the End of Year Performance Report 2020/21 (PC.21/21) be noted.

2) That an update on the future of the Old Fire station be added to the Panel's Work Programme

HWSP.43/21 OVERVIEW REPORT

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer presented report OS.15/21 providing an overview of matters relating to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.

RESOLVED – That report OS.15/21 be received.

[The meeting ended at 11.06am]