

SCRUTINY PANEL

8 June 2021

Present: - Councillor Barton, Councillor Bourne, Councillor Chapman, Councillor Cory [Chairman], Councillor Loveland, Councillor Willetts, Councillor Wood

Substitutions: - Councillor Pearson for Councillor Whitehead

Also present: - None

302. Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2021 and 18 March 2021 be confirmed as correct records.

303. Work Programme

Owen Howell, Democratic Services Officer, introduced the report and explained the content and recommended decisions as set out in it. This included the recommendation that scrutiny training be arranged and made available to all potential substitute members. A Panel member asked for as much notice as possible regarding training and suggested that more than one session be set up, if possible.

The Chairman voiced his intention to instigate a rolling series of Portfolio Holder briefings and question-and-answer sessions with the Scrutiny Panel.

The Panel discussed its role as the Crime and Disorder Committee, with the view given that the work of all partners needed to be scrutinised and discussed, rather than only focussing on the work of the Police. The Panel discussed the suggestion that the additional meeting of that Committee be cancelled, and a member recommended that if that meeting was kept, that it be used as an opportunity to question a wider range of partners.

It was noted that past meetings of the Crime and Disorder Committee had included representatives of non-police and non-statutory partners in community safety, included the Garrison and the Business Improvement District. The Panel was strongly advised to identify a specific issue or area of community safety for the Committee to examine at its second meeting each year, if this is maintained.

Members of the Panel suggested that the Panel should examine public health provision across the Borough and that the Council had a role in ensuring that public health provision was appropriate.

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) The Panel has considered and approves the contents of the Work Programme for 2021-2022.
- (b) An additional meeting of the Crime & Disorder Committee continue to be held in February or March and that the Panel would identify its focus
- (c) Training for the Panel be organised and opened up for all members of the Council
- (d) Portfolio Holders would be asked to commence a rolling series of briefings/question and answer sessions with the Scrutiny Panel.
- (e) The Panel would look to conduct scrutiny of public health issues in the future.