



Minutes

Name of meeting	CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date and Time	TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs C Quirk (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), C Critchison, W Drew, J Lever, M Lilley, J Robertson and P Spink
Co-opted	Cameron Palin (IWALC)
Also Present	Cllr J Bacon Sharon Betts, Hayley Holden, Christopher Potter, Paul Thistlewood, Justin Thorne and Megan Tuckwell
Also Present (Virtual)	Cllrs D Andre and C Jarman Christopher Ashman, Simon Bryant, Steve Crocker, Claire Shand and Melanie White
Apologies	Cllrs R Quigley and J Medland

27 Apologies and Changes in Membership (If Any)

Cllr Richard Quigley gave his apologies, therefore the vice-chairman, Cllr Chris Quirk, took the chair. Cllr Claire Critchison was in attendance as a substitute for Cllr David Adams. Cllr John Medland was absent.

28 Minutes

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022 be confirmed as a true record.

29 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Michael Lilley declared an interest in minute item 35, Responding to Climate Change and Enhancing the Biosphere, as trustee of Wight Community Energy.

30 Public Question Time - 15 Minutes Maximum

No public questions were received.

31 Progress Update

The chairman presented the report which provided an overview of the progress against actions and outcomes from previous meetings. Attention was drawn to the request by the committee at its meeting held in January 2022 for an item relating to Floating Bridge to be included in the workplan after the outcome of the mediation was known. It was agreed that the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the Director of Neighbourhoods would be contacted for an update. Reference was made to the request by the committee at its meeting held in July 2022 to receive a report on the future structure of the Housing Team. It was agreed that the Chief Executive would be contacted for an update.

RESOLVED:

THAT the progress report be noted.

32 Committee's Workplan:

32a Forward Plan

The committee were invited to identify any item contained within the published forward plan that would benefit from early consideration within the committee's own workplan or one of the policy and scrutiny committees. The adoption of the Newport Harbour Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (due for decision in November 2022), the disposal of potential housing site(s) in East Cowes, and the disposal of council-owned employment land at Kingston Marine Park (due for decision in January 2023) were identified, and it was advised that the workplan would be updated accordingly.

RESOLVED:

THAT the forward plan be noted.

32b Committee's Work Programme 2022-25

Consideration was given to the committee's work programme for 2022-25. The Committee agreed the scoping document relating to the workplan item on the Council's Performance Management Framework which would be discussed at the July 2023 meeting.

RESOLVED:

THAT the work programme be noted.

33 Freedom of Information

Consideration was given to the report which outlined how the council managed its statutory duty for processing requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and analysed the number of requests for information received and the council's overall performance. Discussion took place regarding statutory obligations, general enquiries, business-as-usual comparative data, response times, resource implications, and request patterns. The Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment, Heritage, Human Resources and Legal and Democratic Services was requested to give consideration to the quarterly performance report showing data

relating to the response times, and to look into supplying the data showing the numbers of Freedom of Information requests dealt with on a service basis.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report be noted.

34 Procurement Strategy

Consideration was given to the council's revised Procurement Strategy 2022-2025 prior to its submission to Cabinet on 13 October 2022, and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change and Corporate Resources presented the Strategy which set out the council's procurement vision, aims and objectives over the next three years in relation to procurement and contract management activity. Comments were raised in relation to value for money, and following discussion the report was welcomed and endorsed.

RESOLVED:

THAT the strategy be supported.

35 Responding to Climate Change and Enhancing the Biosphere

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment, Heritage, Human Resources and Legal and Democratic Services presented the report which outlined the actions being taken regarding the delivery of the activities in the Corporate Plan relating to responding to climate change and enhancing the biosphere. Concerns were raised around the allocation of funds to upgrade the heating system and windows at County Hall, and the Cabinet Member was requested to provide a breakdown of the funding of the phase 3 works as contained in the report's section on the public sector decarbonisation fund. Questions were raised regarding job creation, renewable energy, sustainability goals, plans to work with town, parish and community councils, battery storage, the development of the biosphere steering committee, and electric vehicle charging points. Attention was drawn to the strategies listed in paragraph 16 of the report, relating to Council projects currently contributing to the delivery of key activities, and whether these require inclusion in scrutiny workplans at an appropriate stage.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report be accepted.

36 Members' Question Time

No written questions were received.

Cllr Michael Lilley asked an oral question regarding the current legal position of the lease arrangements for the former Ryde Arena (ice rink). It was confirmed that a written response would be sought and be circulated to all members of the committee.

CHAIRMAN