

GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on Thursday, 22 September 2011 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 12.05 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor David Nimmo-Smith – in the Chair

Councillor Nicholas P. Turner (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Anne Purse
Councillor Roger Belson
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor Pete Handley
Councillor A.M. Lovatt
Councillor John Tanner
Councillor David Turner

Officers:

Whole of meeting Liz Johnston
Arzu Ulusoy-Shipstone

Part of meeting Sue Kent
John Disley
Joy White

The Scrutiny Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting [, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting/the following additional documents:] and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports [agenda, reports and schedule/additional documents] are attached to the signed Minutes.

26/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS (Agenda No. 1)

Cllr Sandy Lovatt was present as a substitute for Cllr Keith Strangwood.

27/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE ON THE BACK PAGE (Agenda No. 2)

There were no Declarations of Interest.

28/11 MINUTES
(Agenda No. 3)

The minutes of the meeting on 14 July were signed and approved.

29/11 SPEAKING TO OR PETITIONING THE COMMITTEE
(Agenda No. 4)

There were no requests to speak to or petition the Committee.

30/11 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(Agenda No. 5)

John Disley (Strategic Manager, Highways and Transport) updated the Committee on work with the Community Transport Strategy. In particular, the scope of the project has been difficult to agree as it ties into a number of broad cross-cutting issues. Cllr David Turner was concerned with the proposed timetable and requested that Officers progress the work regarding Dial-a-ride with particular urgency.

The Committee RESOLVED to have a Q&A session with providers and other local authorities at the next Scrutiny Committee meeting to consider possible options.

31/11 ENERGY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
(Agenda No. 6)

Sue Kent (Environment & Climate Change Manager) introduced the Committee to Oxfordshire County Council's approach to energy management, which takes into consideration the significant likely increases in energy costs and flexibility required to deal with these fluctuations. The Committee were informed of the ways the Council is trying to cut its energy use, and how it is supporting and encouraging schools to cut theirs.

The Committee RESOLVED that a communication to all Councillors setting out what they could do, as individuals and as community leaders, to reduce energy consumption would be created.

32/11 DELIVERING DIRECTORATE SAVINGS
(Agenda No. 7)

Arzu Ulusoy-Shipstone (Capital, Strategy & Transformation Manager, E&E) updated the Committee on progress on delivering savings in E&E. 82% of planned savings for 2011/12 have already been delivered. The only area where savings are not going to be achieved is under Street Lighting, due to a change in costing structures from our energy provider. These savings will be met from elsewhere in the E&E budget.

The Committee RESOLVED to receive further updates on progress against savings targets at appropriate intervals in the scrutiny work programme going forward.

33/11 FORWARD PLAN

(Agenda No. 8)

Cllr Charles Mathew suggested an item on the planning Committee and its role in planning enforcement be considered for future meetings.

Cllr Nimmo-Smith requested that an item on potential new government planning policy comes to the Committee at an appropriate time.

34/11 CLOSE OF MEETING

(Agenda No. 9)

12:05

..... in the Chair

Date of signing