

Supplementary Committee Agenda



Constitution and Members Services Scrutiny Standing Panel Wednesday, 27th February, 2013

Place: Committee Room 1

Time: 7.00 pm

Committee Secretary: M Jenkins - The Office of the Chief Executive
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9. OUTSIDE BODIES (Pages 3 - 12)

(Assistant to the Chief Executive) Following the meeting of the Sub Group comprising Councillors Mrs M Sartin, R Cohen, J Philip and G Waller, a current schedule of outside bodies is attached. The Sub Group sought views from various members and officers about those organisations which were queried by the Sub Group and an oral report will be made by officers on responses. Where the Sub Group had a query about a particular body, this has been indicated in bold on the right of the schedule.

The Panel will also need to review which organisations are to be the subject of reports in the future.

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LEADER APPOINTMENTS

ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
<p>1. Civil Enforcement of Parking and Traffic regulations Outside London (PATROL) – Adjudication Joint Committee</p> <p>Comments from Councillor G Waller (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body? No</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet? Not known</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue? Having made enquiries I've been informed that, now EFDC is a full member of the North Essex Parking Partnership, the Chair of NEPP attends PATROL, and its therefore unnecessary for us to appoint a representative.</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities? N/A</p>
<p>6. Harlow Stansted Gateway Transportation Board (HSGTB) (Executive)</p> <p>Comments from Councillor G Waller (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body? Yes</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet? About 2-3 times a year.</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue? It's useful for us to keep in touch with neighbouring councils and Essex CC on transport matters.</p>

	<p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities?</p> <p>I have included information gained from my attendance in my report to Council. I shall make a report on future meetings when relevant issues arise.</p>
<p>7. Housing Repairs Advisory Group</p> <p>Comments from Councillor D Stallan (District Council Representative)</p> <p>P Pledger, Assistant Director of Housing Comments in appendix 1 to this schedule.</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet?</p> <p>Every quarter.</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue?</p> <p>Officers have already discussed me with as to whether this group should continue to meet and to whether the work of the group is better dealt with by the housing scrutiny panel. I understand officers will be speaking to Councillor Murray re this.</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities?</p> <p>As above.</p>
<p>11. Waste Partnership – Inter Authority Member Working Group</p>	<p>Councillor W Breare-Hall Councillor G Waller (Deputy)</p>

Appendix 1

At its meeting in September 2008, the Cabinet agreed to form the Repairs Advisory Group, made up of the following Members:

- (a) Housing Portfolio Holder (Chairman)**
- (b) Finance & Performance Management Portfolio Holder**
- (c) Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel**
- (d) Vice-Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel**
- (e) Director of Housing**
- (f) Asst. Director of Housing (Property)**
- (g) 2 representatives of the Tenants & Leaseholders Federation**

In May 2012, the membership was amended to omit the finance & Performance Management Portfolio Holder from the RAG. This effectively means that the members of RAG are all (with the exception of Mears and the second tenant representative) attendees at the Housing Scrutiny Panel.

The main purpose of the RAG meeting was to oversee the appointment of the new Repairs Management Contractor (Mears) to take our Repairs Service through a Repairs Refresh Programme. The terms of reference for the Advisory Group was to provide advice on the proposed specification, interview short-listed companies and recommend to the Portfolio Holder an appointment. It would also monitor the performance of the repairs management contractor and the repairs service generally. The RAG is a Consultation Group, with any decisions ultimately taken by the Cabinet (or delegated to the Housing Portfolio Holder).

Clearly, most of this work has been done. However, the ongoing contract monitoring will continue for the remainder of the contract (up to 9-years).

It is right to question the purpose of an additional meeting in the Council's calendar. The main items that now go to the RAG meeting often also go to the Housing Scrutiny Panel, such as Performance Indicators, new Key Deliverables and Service Enhancements. The Housing Scrutiny Panel have also received presentations on the progress made with the Repairs Refresh Programme; therefore, one could argue that there is a duplication in the role of RAG and the Housing Scrutiny Panel.

Since the RAG was introduced as a result of a Cabinet Decision, I suggest it would be a Cabinet Decision to change its terms of reference, or even end it; perhaps amending the terms of reference of Housing Scrutiny to incorporate the role of RAG.

This email is primarily to seek the views of both the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel on the possibility of amending the Scrutiny Panel Terms of Reference to incorporate the on-going roles of RAG, thereby ending RAG as an external body; a question raised by the Constitution Sub-Group on Monday evening.

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COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
<p>3. Campaign to Protect Rural England (Essex Branch)</p> <p>Comments from - Councillor T Boyce (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body?</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet? This meets twice yearly</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue? reports as to what is going on in Essex</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities? They keep me updated as to what is going on, and I think it is worth representing as it does inform what is going on in the county.</p>
<p>5. Epping Forest Housing Aid Committee</p> <p>Comments from - Councillor J Wyatt (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body? I receive all papers by email from their secretary</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet? We meet at approx 2 monthly intervals, Russell Wallace and a member of his staff are always present to pick up any points requiring EFDC action.</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue? I know that they appreciate member attendance and I learn at the same time.</p>

<p>Comments from Councillor G Waller (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>Not at present.</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet?</p> <p>Does not currently meet.</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue?</p> <p>Princess Alexandra Hospital would like us to continue making an appointment, which will become operative when the hospital is granted Foundation Status.</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities?</p> <p>Nothing to report on yet.</p>
<p>(18) Town Centre Partnerships</p> <p>(a) Buckhurst Hill Town Centre Partnership</p> <p>(b) Epping Town Centre Partnership</p> <p>(c) Loughton Broadway Town Centre Partnership</p> <p>(d) Loughton High Road Town Centre Partnership</p>	<p>Council Representatives:</p> <p>Councillor G Chambers Councillor N Wright</p> <p>Councillor T Church Councillor J M Whitehouse</p> <p>Councillor J Knapman Councillor Jennie Hart</p> <p>Councillor James Hart Councillor H Mann</p>

<p>(e) Ongar Town Forum – Steering Group</p>	<p>Councillor D Jacobs Councillor P Keska</p>
<p>(f) Waltham Abbey Town Partnership</p>	<p>Councillor H Kane Councillor J Lea</p>
<p>(20) Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills Ltd</p> <p>Comments from Councillor H Kane (District Council Representative)</p>	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body?</p> <p>Yes – all the documents before any meeting</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet?</p> <p>Quarterly</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue?</p> <p>It is a must; as the Gun Powder Mills is an important Heritage site of the district located in Waltham Abbey</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities?</p> <p>I think it will be beneficial to the Council, but not on a regular basis as it is seasonal, For example, during the spring/summer time there are more activities organised, because of the weather, while during the autumn/winter months the activities are limited and the meetings are more about forward planning for the summer months.</p> <p>I have not provided the Council with any reports so far- as meetings have been cancelled because of bad weather- and there is nothing new to report. In April there is another meeting organised where decisions will be probably made for the new activities and will report back to the Council. I could of course request that the Admin Office of the Gunpowder mills send any printed brochures/leaflets with events to the Council if required.</p>

(22) Waste Management and Street Cleansing – Loughton Stakeholders' Group	Council Representatives – Councillors James Hart, T Thomas and L Girling
(23) West Essex Wellbeing Joint Committee Comments from Councillor T Boyce (District Council Representative)	<p>(a) Do you receive any papers from this body?</p> <p>West Essex Well being I was asked some months ago if I would represent EFDC which I agreed to do but never heard anymore about so I cannot answers if it is worthwhile or not.</p> <p>(b) How frequently does this body meet?</p> <p>(c) How desirable is it for this appointment to continue?</p> <p>(d) Would the Council benefit from receiving regular reports on its activities?</p>