

Report to Council

Date of meeting: 20 December 2016

Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Contact for further information: Councillor M. Sartin (Chairman)

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the Overview and Scrutiny progress report from October to December 2016, be noted.

Report:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 25 October 2016

1. At our meeting on Tuesday 25th October, we considered the Cabinet's Forward Plan of Key Decisions. The Committee were invited to identify issues which were of concern and the following queries were raised:
 - it was noted that the update to waste and recycling policies would not now go to the November Cabinet meeting; and
 - a question was raised for the Housing Portfolio Holder - Councillor Murray wanted to know what were the wider implications of the items on the Sheltered Housing Assets and on the Sheltered Housing Service. An answer was provided in the Council Bulletin on 4 November 2016.
2. Also at this meeting we reviewed the quarter 1 performance figures of the Key Action Plan for 2016/17. We had some relevant questions emanating from the Key Action Plan objectives and these were answered by the Cabinet members in attendance.
3. We then considered our work programme and discussed the difficulty we were having in getting the County's Local Highways Services to come to a future meeting. We reviewed our reserve programme and decided that we should have Barts Health NHS Trust in again for an update early in the new municipal year and the District's 6th Form Consortium around about the same time. We also agreed we should ask someone from the Princess Alexandra Hospital to come to a special meeting, probably in January 2017, and update us on their plans after the recent CQC report and especially on how they plan to deal with their A&E service. We have now pencilled in a provisional date of 30 January 2017 to accommodate this item of scrutiny.
4. Finally we considered the approach we would take with TfL when they attend our meeting on 19 December. We outlined what areas we would like them to cover such as when their new rolling stock would be available; questions about disability access on to their stations and platforms; if their new night time services would be extended up to Epping and what were the security implications for passengers and staff because of this; and what was the capacity of the Central Line and would this be increasing in the coming years and if so, by how much?

5. We also thought that we could ask the British Transport Police to attend a separate meeting and give us their views on the new night time services and the implications on having fewer station staff. We agreed that we could add this onto our reserve programme for further consideration.