

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in Chamber Suite 2, The Arc, Clowne, on Wednesday 29th July 2015 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor S. W Fritchley in the Chair

Councillors; T. Alexander, A. Anderson, J. Clifton, P. Smith and J. Wilson.

Officers; J. Foley (Assistant Director – Customer Service and Improvement), K. Drury (Information, Engagement and Performance Manager), (C. Millington (Scrutiny Officer) and A. Bluff (Governance Officer).

0259. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Dixey, S. Statter and P. Barnes.

0260. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0261. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0262. MINUTES – 1ST JULY 2015

Moved by Councillor A. Anderson, seconded by Councillor J. Clifton

RESOLVED that the minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 1st July 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

0263. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Members were advised that as there was no Executive meeting scheduled in August due to the summer recess, the next List of Key Decisions and Items to be Considered in Private would be published on 7th August 2015 and would be circulated to Members on that date.

(Governance Manager)

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0264. INTRODUCTION TO CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS – PRESENTATION FROM JANE FOLEY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – CUSTOMER SERVICE AND IMPROVEMENT

The Assistant Director – Customer Service and Improvement gave a slide presentation to the meeting which provided details of how Corporate Plan Targets under the remit of the Growth Scrutiny Committee would be presented to Members at the quarterly performance meetings.

The New Corporate Plan 2015 - 2019 had been approved at Council on 15th July 2015, following 12 months of development including Member involvement and public consultation. The 4 year plan was in line with the civic period and contained new aims, priorities and targets. The Plan would be published by the end of July 2015.

Growth targets had been set down as per the Council's Growth Strategy and the three aims which had been agreed by Members were;

1. Supporting Enterprise: maintaining and growing the business base
2. Unlocking Development Potential: unlocking the capacity of major employment sites
3. Enabling Housing Growth: increasing the supply, quality and range of housing to meet the needs of the growing population and support economic growth.

Currently, officers were completing templates to establish base line information which would be included on the PERFORM system and which Members would be able to access. An example of a page in the PERFORM system was provided to Members which showed how the status and progress of targets would be presented.

For the purpose of monitoring performance against targets, quarterly Performance Reports would be presented to Members at Scrutiny Committee from November 2015 which would be the half year update. The relevant Cabinet Member would be present at the meeting and given the opportunity to present the report if they wished otherwise it would be the Information, Engagement and Performance Manager. Scrutiny Committee could also invite specific Directors or Assistant Directors to attend the Committee meetings to discuss the targets and their performance. Scrutiny Reviews could also be generated under the performance of targets.

As part of quarterly performance reporting, Members could expect relevant information such as;

Example Growth Target - 'Through the use of Key Account Management develop a relationship with a minimum of 50 local businesses by March 2019'

Quarterly Progress Update - *"this quarter we have engaged with 4 new businesses in the South Normanton and Tibshelf area bringing our total to date to 12" instead of just, "we are making progress".*

Good performance management was to set SMART targets, provide transparent updates in a timely manner, celebrate good performance but be honest about under performance and rationalise that under performance. Be accountable and think strategic not local.

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Members asked questions regarding challenging performance.

The Assistant Director – Customer Service and Improvement and the Information, Engagement and Performance Manager left the meeting.

Moved and seconded

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

0265. WORK PLAN

Members considered the Work Plan for 2015/16 in relation to their work programme.

The Scrutiny Officer advised Members that as the Committee would be monitoring empty private sector properties in the District, the new Empty Properties Officer had been invited to attend the next meeting in September 2015 to answer Members questions.

The Empty Properties Officer was also currently compiling an Empty Properties Strategy document and the Scrutiny Officer had advised that the Strategy would need to be presented to the Growth Scrutiny Committee for their consideration before it was presented to the Executive.

Members of the Committee also requested that the Scrutiny Officer plan in updates from Derek Mapp and the work with businesses and also a briefing on the work of the Local Enterprise Partnerships and the Authority's relationship and role.

Moved and seconded

RESOLVED that the Work Plan be noted.

(Scrutiny Officer)

The formal part of the Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting concluded at 1110 hours and Members then met as a Working Party to continue their review work.

The Working Party concluded at 1125 hours.