

## **HEALTHY, SAFE, CLEAN AND GREEN COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, High Street, Clowne, on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019, at 1000 hours.

**PRESENT:-**

Members:-

Councillor David Downes in the Chair

Councillors Anne Clarke, Pat Cooper, Natalie Hoy, Tom Munro, Evonne Parkin, Peter Roberts and Janet Tait.

Officers:- Kath Drury (Information, Engagement & Performance Manager), Joanne Wilson (Scrutiny & Elections Officer) and Alison Bluff (Governance Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting was Councillors Rose Bowler, Deborah Watson (Portfolio Holder for Streetscene and Environmental Health), Kevin Shillitto (Solicitor) and Helen Rawson (Senior Environmental Health Officer (Commercial)).

### **0209. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Dexter Bullock and in relation to item 6, Quarter 1 Performance 2019/20, Councillors Mary Dooley, Sandra Peake and Nick Clarke).

### **0210. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

### **0211. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### **0212. MINUTES – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2019**

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor Pat Cooper  
**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of a Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 be approved as a correct record.

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### 0213. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Committee considered the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document.

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor Pat Cooper

**RESOLVED** that the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document be noted.

### 0214. CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS PERFORMANCE UPDATE – QUARTER 1 – APRIL TO JUNE 2019

Committee considered a report which provided the Quarter 1 outturns (April to June 2019) for the Corporate Plan 2019-2020, which sit under the 'supporting our communities to be healthier, safer, cleaner and greener' corporate aim.

There were 8 targets in total which were reported as all being on track. These being;

#### **H 01 - Deliver a minimum of 8000 hours of positive activity through community based culture and leisure engagement per year.**

The Information, Engagement & Performance Manager noted an error on the report and advised the meeting that actual performance to the end of Quarter 1 was 2293 hours.

#### **H 02 - Increase participation/attendances in leisure, sport, recreation, health, physical and cultural activity by 3,000 per year.**

Actual attendance for Quarter 1 was 95,155 which was on track to exceed the annual target of 300,000 attendances.

Queries had been raised at the Scrutiny pre meeting by the Chair and Vice Chair and responses to those queries were circulated at the meeting as follows;

Target was to increase by 3,000 per year and the commentary makes no reference to mechanisms to maintain/increase attendances.

Members note that the 15/16 target was 231,000 - actual 236,459 - the 16/17 target was 234,000 - actual 229,195 and the 17/18 target was 300,000 (not a 3,000 increase and there is no explanation for the jump to 300,000 – why?), noted that actual was 349,101

The 18/19 target remained 300,000 (no increase – why?), note that actual was 389,673 which is a significant increase.

The 19/20 target still remains 300,000 (again no increase as target states – why?), noted that actual for Q1 exceeds expectation.

Are these solely Arc attendances or from a wider range of services?

Officer response;

The 17/18 target was revised to take into account the opening of the Go Active facility. The overall 18/19 & 19/20 target was not reviewed as the new facility had

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contributed to a considerable increase to overall usage and therefore a substantial increase on the original corporate plan target.

The figures are from the whole Leisure department (sports development, outdoor recreation and the Go Active facility). A breakdown of activities can be supplied should this be required.

### **H 03 - Deliver a health intervention programme which provides 485 adults per year with a personal exercise plan via the exercise referral scheme.**

The Council was commissioned by Bolsover Partnership and County Public Health to deliver a Health Intervention programme. The combined number of people starting the programme in the first quarter was 154 against an annual target of 485 - slightly ahead on the quarter target.

### **H 09 - Achieve a combined recycling and composting rate of 47% by March 2019.**

Quarter 1: 47% (approx.)

Estimated on performance ending June 2018 (based on 4,600 tonnes collected between April and June 2018), due to Waste Data Flow information not being available until September 2019. Additional information: Quarter 4 (2018/19) Actuals - 2,305 tonnes of recyclable/compostable waste was collected January to March 2019, yielding Quarter 4 recycling rate of 30.6 % with an overall annual combined recycling rate of 40.3% (approx.).

A Member queried if residents who were home composting were accounted for in the target and if other local authorities measured this and how. The Scrutiny & Elections Officer noted that composting bins sold by the Council could be tracked by the number of sales, however, this would not account for the amount of composting being made by residents at home. The Member requested that the Head of Streetscene be asked this question before he attended the Committee's meeting in November.

### **H 10 - Sustain standards of litter cleanliness to ensure 96% of streets each year meet an acceptable level as assessed by Local Environment Quality Surveys (LEQS).**

Quarter 1: LEQS's established 4% of streets and relevant land surveyed for litter fell below grade B cleanliness standards resulting in 96% meeting the target standard.

### **H 11 - Sustain standards of dog fouling cleanliness to ensure 98% of streets each year meet an acceptable level as assessed by Local Environment Quality Surveys (LEQS).**

Quarter 1: LEQS's established 0% of streets and relevant land surveyed for dog fouling fell below grade B cleanliness standards resulting in 100% meeting the target standard.

### **H 12 - Annually undertake 15 local environmental enforcement and educational initiatives in targeted areas to deal with dog fouling, littering or fly tipping.**

Quarter 1: 1 initiative held in Bolsover - joint enforcement patrol with CAN Rangers. (A number of initiatives were programmed for Quarter 2).

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*The following query was raised at the Scrutiny pre meeting by the Chair and Vice Chair and the following response was circulated to Members **after the meeting had taken place**:*

*As raised on numerous times during the Review of Environmental Enforcement, Members wished to see greater detail here. To have achieved 1 out of 15 does not lead Members to believe things are 'on track'. How many events are planned for Q2 (as noted)? How many are planned, at the current time, for later in the year Q3 and Q4? Where will these events take place allowing Members to help publicise/attend events?*

*Officer Response;*

*Q1 – 1 x enforcement patrol in Bolsover – completed*

*Q2 – PDSA event in South Normanton – completed*

*PDSA event in Shirebrook – completed*

*2 enforcement patrols - planned*

*Q3 – approx. 5 enforcement patrols – planned*

*PDSA event in Shirebrook - planned*

*PDSA event in South Normanton - planned*

*Q4 – approx. 5 enforcement patrols – planned.*

*Other events to attend will include those in partnership with Streetscene, such as school initiatives and recycling promotion events. When Streetscene have dates booked in, they advise us so that we can arrange attendance also. (Dates not currently known).*

*Note locations of enforcement patrols will not be announced and tend to be agreed closer to the time. Locations may be influenced by current cases and complaints. The approximate numbers of patrols may also change subject to service demands.*

*Also, relevant Parish Councils are made aware when PDSA events will be held. Promotion leaflets are also produced and passed to Communications for them to circulate via the usual channels.*

The Information, Engagement & Performance Manager asked Members to note that the Environmental Health Service was currently under extreme pressure due to retention of staff and future recruitment of staff.

Councillor Watson, Portfolio Holder for Streetscene, advised the meeting that she shared Members' concerns and would put Members' questions to the Environmental Health Enforcement Group.

### **H 17 - To deliver the Building Resilience Programme by September 2019**

Quarter 1: The Building Resilience programme continued to make good progress across all strands of activity. The decision on the funding for 2019/20 had been confirmed, however, official confirmation from the Treasury was awaited and was subsequently embargoed until this was received. Examples of the work being achieved could be found in the Bolsover Partnerships Bi-annual report together with case studies. The ongoing

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evaluations continued throughout the programme with a further evaluation document expected in September 2019.

A query had been raised at the Scrutiny pre meeting by the Chair and Vice Chair and a response to the query was circulated at the meeting as follows;

When will the embargo be lifted to allow progression with the next phase?

Officer response;

Confirmation that funding for Phase 2 of CMF was received on the 13th July 2019. We are trying to establish if the embargo has been officially lifted but our communications contact at MHCLG isn't available until Monday 5th August 2019. In the meantime, the Partnership Team are looking at re-profiling the budget for phase 2 to take account of the delay in receiving the funding and will then be working with relevant partners to plan delivery.

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Janet Tait  
**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

The Information, Engagement & Performance Manager left the meeting.

### 0215. ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

Committee considered a report in relation to the Council's draft Animal Welfare Policy. Any comments or observations made by Members regarding the policy would be considered as part of a formal consultation.

The Council was responsible for the licensing and inspection of Animal Welfare establishments across the District.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, came into force and replaced previous legislation applicable to:-

- pet shops,
- kennel/cattery boarding of dogs and cats,
- home boarding of dogs,
- breeding of dogs,
- riding establishments and the keeping or training of animals for exhibition.

The new legislation was designed to raise standards and promote consistency in Animal Welfare and to ensure that those who participated in any of the above trades, "*where there was a view to make financial gain; or where a commission or fee was taken*", were licensed and monitored.

Under the new laws, businesses would be covered under a single type of licence from the above date. This Animal Activity Licence had nationally-set licence conditions for businesses providing animal-related services and could be granted for periods of 12 months to 3 years.

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Businesses operating under licences issued prior to 1st October 2018, would be able to continue to do so until the expiry date as shown on their licence. All applications to renew licences would be made under the new legislation and deemed to be new applications and would need to be assessed by way of an inspection before a new licence was granted in order to ensure that the businesses were compliant with the mandatory conditions of the new legislation.

The draft policy set out the legislative framework, the application process, the inspection process, fees and charges (previously approved in Delegated Decision DD/046/18PC) and how premises with lower star ratings could appeal decisions.

In response to Members questions, it was clarified that the policy was with regard to animals kept in a permanent property for the long term. The policy did not cover legislation in relation to animals kept for meat consumption, travelling circuses, dog groomers and animal sanctuaries. With regard to voluntary organisations which kept animals, these would come under nationally applicable animal laws, for example, the RSPCA and the Police.

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor Natalie Hoy  
**RESOLVED** that the Animal Welfare Policy be noted.

The Solicitor and the Senior Environmental Health Officer left the meeting.

### **0216. WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020**

Committee considered their Work Programme 2019/20.

The Scrutiny & Elections Officer advised Committee that the 2018/19 monitoring report of the Partnership, Policy & Strategy Team was available on the Members' Portal for viewing.

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor Natalie Hoy  
**RESOLVED** that the Committee Work Programme 2019/20 be noted.

The meeting concluded at 1100 hours.