

Swindon Borough Council

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday, 29 January 2020

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices

At 6.00 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Matthew Courtliff
Steve Heyes
Garry Perkins
Roger Smith
Vera Tomlinson

Labour Councillors

Steve Allsopp
John Ballman
Janine Howarth
Vacancy

Committee Officer: Shaun Banks (07980752047) sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

Access Arrangements - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2019.

4. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

5. **LED Street Lighting Conversion Programme**
(Report to follow)
6. **Electric Vehicle Charging Points within the Borough**
(Report to follow)
7. **Committee Work Programme** (Pages 7 - 14)

Date of Despatch: 21 January 2020

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

(<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sched=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT:- Councillors Matthew Courtliff, Steve Heyes, Janine Howarth and Garry Perkins.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Allsopp, John Ballman, Roger Smith, Bazil Solomon and Vera Tomlinson.

13. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

14. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2019, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

15. Public Question Time

No public questions were received during the meeting.

16. Presentation by Recycling Technologies Limited

The Committee received a presentation by Bronwen Jameson, Marketing Communications Manager, Recycling Technologies Limited, regarding their current work in recycling plastics including:

- The company's head office and manufacturing facility at South Marston Industrial Park which produced machines for the UK and Europe and expansion plans for manufacturing in Swindon.
- The company had developed and engineered machinery to recycle plastic waste that would otherwise go to landfill or incineration.
- The history of plastic production and its various uses which had seen a steady increase in production since the 1950's with only approximately 12% of plastics being recycled globally at the end of their life cycle.
- The benefits of using plastic, especially in medicine, food production and reducing the carbon footprint through the transportation of goods.
- Opportunities for the reduction of plastic packaging to assist in the reduction of unrecycled plastics.
- The Government's Resources and Waste Strategy launched on 18th December 2018 which highlighted the circular economy and resource efficiency model.
- The Government consultation on plastic waste in May 2019 asking industry to respond on four key areas; collection, deposit return schemes, a plastic tax and extended producer responsibility.
- The Government's aim to implement changes to the collections and deposit return scheme and extended producer responsibility (and liability for waste) in April 2023 and a plastic tax (on packaging) in April 2022.
- This was intended to drive behavioural change and industry investment

especially on the production of plastics with recyclable content and through this recycling infrastructure.

- The UK plastics pact which was a voluntary agreement seeking 100% of recyclable packaging for food by 2025 and 70% effective recycling.
- The local initiative between Recycling Technologies Limited and Tesco supermarket whereby Tesco's had invited shoppers to return certain plastic packaging to the store for recycling. It was noted that 98% of returned materials had been suitable for recycling.
- The type of packaging that could currently be recycled, including amongst others crisp packets and pet food pouches.
- The need to give end of life plastics an economic value to encourage recycling and the infrastructure required to promote this reducing landfill.
- The development of the process and machinery used in plastic recycling by Recycling Technologies over the previous eight years, from proof of concept in 2013 to providing technology to recycle the widest range of materials and the commercialisation of this technology.
- The support of Swindon Borough Council and Public Power Solutions in the operation of Recycling Technologies Beta Plant at Waterside.
- The forthcoming commissioning of the new generation 3 beta plant which will process the Tesco trial plastic materials.
- The creation of the company's first plant in Scotland in 2020 powered by green energy.
- The continuation of work with a number of universities to further develop the recycling process.
- Funding through grants (LEP) and crowd funding to enable the company to continue its development work and manufacturing.
- The technical process for turning plastic into oil for reuse in plastic production with each plant being able to recycle 7,000 tonnes of prepared plastic each year which could cater for around 300,000 people.
- Work by the petro chemical industry to make itself more sustainable, including the use of recycled materials of its products.

Following her presentation Ms Jameson responded to Members' questions and comments in respect of:

- How any future Government plans to ban single use plastics might affect future operations.
- The effect on future plastic manufacturing of the carbon reduction agenda.
- The future collection of plastics for recycling, perhaps domestically through kerbside collection and through industrial recycling collections.
- The location of future recycling plants to maximise environmental benefits and the potential to produce smaller units for increased environmental and local benefits. (For example Swindon produced around 2,000 tonnes dry weight of recyclable plastic domestically annually).
- Emissions associated with the recycling process including the delivery of materials to processing plants (currently tests showed that the equivalent of 1.8 tonnes of carbon was saved per tonne of recycling when compared to traditional methods of disposal/processing).
- Plans to place three more machines into market in 2021.

Resolved – That, Bronwen Jameson on behalf of Recycling Technologies Limited, be thanked for her presentation and that the Committee's best wishes for the company's endeavours be recorded.

(Councillor Garry Perkins made a personal and non-prejudicial declaration of interest in his capacity as a Council appointed Director of Public Power Solutions.)

17. Work Programme 2019/20

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Legal Officer setting out the Committee's proposed Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2019/20.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That it be noted that the Armed Forces Covenant will be taken directly to Council for adoption.

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Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

Author: Chief Legal Officer

Wards: All Wards

Parishes Affected: All Parish Areas

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To give members the opportunity to consider issues that the Committee wish to include in its work programme for the 2019/20 Municipal Year
- 1.2 Under the Council's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Committees are required to agree a work programme at the start of the municipal year outlining their priorities and likely outcomes of considering these issues.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the draft Work Programme for the 2019/20 Municipal Year and make any suggested amendments.
- 2.2 Appoint Members to any Task Groups agreed by the Committee.

3. Detail

- 3.1 This report sets out details of the topics for the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2019/20. A list of possible topics is attached as Appendix 1 to the report.
- 3.2 To assist Members in developing the Committee's Work Programme, a copy of the current Cabinet Work Programme and Forward Plan, for the 2nd January 2020 to 1st January 2021 can be inspected on the Council's website and copies can be obtained from the Committee Officer. A hard copy will be available for inspection at the meeting
- 3.3 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 3.4 The work programme details the various topics and issues that each Committee intends to look into during the coming year with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.

The work programme is developed taking into account:

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Contact Shaun Banks, 07980752047, sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

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- Corporate priorities and objectives, including the Cabinet Forward Plan
 - Partnership strategic priorities and objectives
 - The interests and concerns of Members, Council officers, members of the public and other stakeholders such as community and voluntary groups and local businesses
- 3.5 Committees are encouraged to review the work programme on a regular basis to ensure it remains relevant and to prioritise the workload of the Committee.
- 3.6 Members are reminded that the work programme must also take into account:
- The workload of the Committee and of individual members
 - The capacity of officers to support a review
 - The resource implications of carrying out a review
 - The timescales for a review
 - The most appropriate method of carrying out a review e.g. Committee meeting, Task Group, Member Champion review
- 3.7 The Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to be mindful of its role and remit when considering a work programme for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.
- 3.8 It is important that Overview and Scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and the Borough and produces tangible outcomes for local people that result in real service improvements. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure that Overview and Scrutiny will be effective.

Task Group Reviews

- 3.9 The Committee is able to undertake individual reviews throughout the municipal year and proposals for reviews should be proposed and discussed at the Committee meeting.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The Committee can choose not to have a detailed work programme although it is recommended that it is best practice to do so.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising as a result of this report. Any expenditure arising as a result of an item on the Committee's work

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Contact Shaun Banks, 07980752047, sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

programme will be met by the Overview and Scrutiny Support budget, subject to the approval of the Committee.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Section 21 of the Local Government Act requires every local authority to establish an overview and scrutiny function to hold the Executive to account, undertake policy development and review, monitor and improve performance.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report. Any further implications will be identified when a topic is reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee and in any recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee.

Links to One Swindon, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The remit of the Committee includes the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations and the monitoring performance of corporate priorities including One Swindon.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment is required at this stage, any DIA that is required during review of topics included within the work programme will be identified at the appropriate stage

Risk Management

- 5.6 No risk management issues have been identified at this stage, any risk management issues will be identified at the appropriate time when a topic is under review by the Scrutiny Committee and if it makes any recommendations.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Suggested topics for the Communities and Place O/S Committee Work Programme for 2019/20.

Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Process Flowchart

Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

Appendix 1

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2019/20

Terms of Reference of the Committee

To fulfil all the functions of an overview and scrutiny committee as they relate to –

- the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations,
- the management of performance,
- the monitoring of progress towards delivering corporate priorities, and
- the formulation of advice for the Cabinet, Council and other partners and stakeholders.

To have specific responsibility for (but not limited to) the scrutiny of: -

- the performance of services seeking to deliver sustainable communities against agreed local and national performance indicators,
- StreetSmart services,
- Transport and strategic transport planning,
- Flood risks,
- Environment and sustainability,
- Waste and Recycling,
- Library services,
- Business Support,
- Parishes and Devolution,
- Community and Neighbourhoods,
- Localities
- Volunteering

Review of the Work Programme

The work programme will be reviewed at every meeting of the Communities and Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee to ensure that it remains relevant, to ensure that Members and Officers have sufficient capacity to deliver the work programme and to include any additional items on the work programme, if appropriate.

Work Programme 2019/20

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 29th January 2020

Dates of Meetings:

26th June 2019

- Work Programme 2019/20
- Presentation - Green Waste Subscriptions
- Presentation - Consultation on Parking Standards for New Developments

3rd September 2019

- Solar and Battery Storage
- Armed Forces Covenant

20th November 2019

- Plastic Recycling
http://www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk/news/16239766.How_a_Swindon_business_is_turning_unrecycable_plastic_into_reusable_oil/
- Food Waste

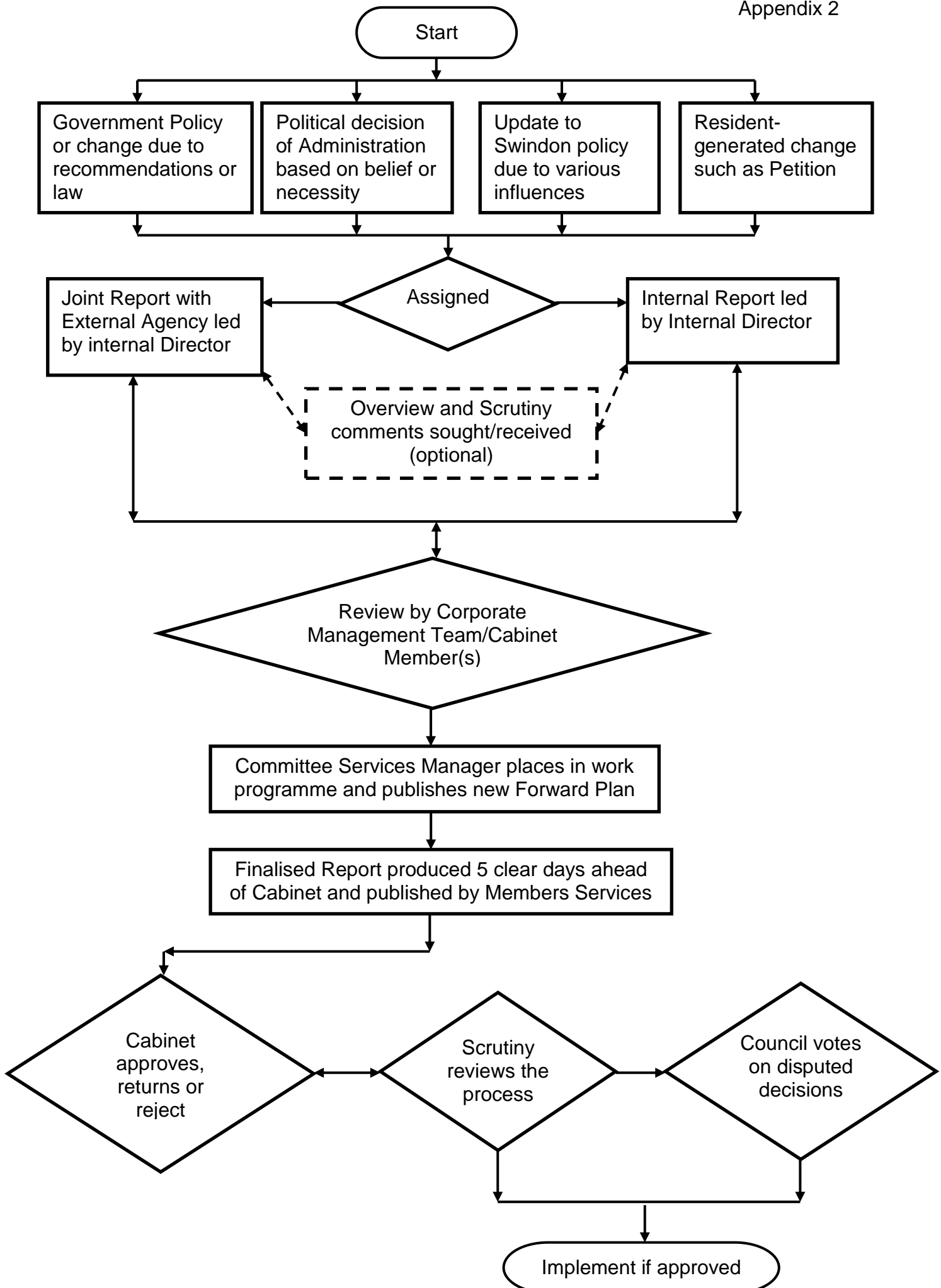
29th January 2020

- Environment and Sustainability Programme (Deferred to April 2020)
- Update on LED Streetlight Installation
- Electric Vehicle Charging Points within the Borough

21st April 2020

- Update on Council Enforcement
- Littering and Enviro Crime
- Food Waste

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Contact Shaun Banks, 07980752047, sbanks@swindon.gov.uk



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