

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 24 JUNE 2013

PRESENT:- Councillors Brian Ford (Chair), Robert Wright, Abdul Amin, Alan Bishop, Mary Friend, John Haines, Ann Richards, Joe Tray, Julie Wright, Andrew Bennett, Neil Heavens, Vera Tomlinson, Michael Bray and Richard Hurley

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter Heaton-Jones.

95. Appointment of Vice-Chair

Resolved – That Councillor Vera Tomlinson be Vice-Chair of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2013/14.

96. Minutes

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2013 be confirmed and signed.

97. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Robert and Julie Wright made personal but non-prejudicial interests as they are members of the Domestic Violence Task Group.

98. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

99. Work Programme

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer submitted a report setting out details of the Annual Overview and Scrutiny work programme consultation exercise and details of suggested topics for the Safer & Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2013/14.

The report provides this Committee with details of how the work programme consultation exercise has been conducted to date and what will occur in regards to work programme development at the first meeting of the Municipal Year.

The report also included, at Appendix A, proposals by the Chair for the Committees work programme in the 2013/14 municipal year. The purpose of these proposals was to provide the Committee with the thoughts of the Chair and to promote debate and discussion around contents for the work programme.

The Committee discussed in some detail Dog Fouling. Phil Thomas undertook to contact the Locality Leads to promote the use of Council “dog-poo” bags.

Resolved – (1) That the work programme as set out below be approved for the Safer & Stronger Scrutiny Committee for the 2013/14 Municipal year, taking into account the priorities and suggestions of relevant Cabinet Members, the views and suggestions of Members of the Committee and the results of the annual work programme exercise.

12th September 2013

Drugs, Violent Crime and Licensed Premises
Neighbourhood Watch and Street Watch
Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session
Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session

12th December 2013

Domestic Violence Strategy
Community Safety Partnership
Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session
Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session

20th February 2014

Probation Service (to include Community Payback Scheme)
Parking on and obstruction to Footpaths (to include Street Parking and general parking problems)
Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session
Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session

10th April 2014

Neighbourhood Justice Panels
Fire Authority
Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session
Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session

(2) That the Children's and Young Persons Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to take the lead and set up a Task Group to look at Sex Education in Schools, with Councillors Richards and Tomlinson as members from this Committee.

(3) That a meeting of the By-Laws Task Group be arranged in the near future.

(4) That an Anti-Social Behaviour Task Group be set up, to include Members of the Licensing Committee and incorporating Neighbourhood Justice Panels and comprising of Councillors Amin, Bennett, Richards and Tomlinson.

(5) That a Travellers and Gypsies Task Group be set up comprising of Councillors Haines, Tomlinson and Tray.

(6) That the proposed Site Visits as set out in the report be agreed.

100. Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session

Representatives from Wiltshire Police attended the meeting in order to take part in a question and answer session with members of the Committee on policing matters.