

SELECT COMMITTEE

20 October 2022

Present – The Chair (Councillor Staveley) and Councillors Jaquin, Shuttleworth and Solloway.

Officers – Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager and Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer.

Start: 6.33pm

Finish: 7:00pm

Apologies for Absence –

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brown, Hull, Ireton, Mercer and Pighills.

Confirmation of Minutes –

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held 13th July 2022 are signed and approved as a correct record.

Public Participation –

There was no public participation.

Declarations of Interest –

None.

Minutes for Report

OS.484

Select Committee Working Group Terms of Reference

The Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer submitted a report asking Members to approve the Select Committee Working Group's Terms of Reference.

After some discussion, Members agreed that they would like to hear the views of additional local law firms. For example, they felt it would be useful to hear from the legal representation used at Licensing Hearing appeals. Members agreed that the Terms of Reference should make it clear that the Working Group wishes to enquire if justice in both the criminal and quasi-judicial licensing courts is being served locally. Members also agreed that making recommendations on how the working arrangements at Skipton Magistrates Court could be changed should be added to the Terms of Reference.

Resolved – That the Select Committee Working Group's Terms of Reference are approved, subject to the following amendments:

- (1) Amending 'Whether justice is being served locally.' to 'Whether justice in the criminal and quasi-judicial licensing courts is being served locally.' in Paragraph 3.

- (2) Adding 'To make recommendations to ensure that justice is being fairly heard in Craven, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and will remain this way in the future.' to Paragraph 3.

OS.485 **Select Committee Working Group Update and Discussion**

Members raised the following points:

- (1) It was stressed that the Working Group should hear from North Yorkshire Police so that they can understand how the working arrangements at Skipton Magistrates Court affect them. Members specifically wanted to understand whether those released on bail could be bailed to Skipton, rather than Harrogate, and whether there was also a Police operational matter due to Police Officers having to travel long distances.
- (2) Members also questioned who else the Working Group should hear from. One suggestion was hearing from the legal representation used by the Council when attending Licensing Hearing Appeals.

OS.486 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Select Committee Working Group - Wednesday, 16 November 2022 at 6.30pm (Virtual).

Select Committee – Wednesday, 18th January 2023 at 6.30pm.

Select Committee (Crime and Disorder) – Wednesday, 18th January at 7.00pm.

Chairman.