

SELECT COMMITTEE

5 June 2019

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Staveley) and Councillors Brown, Jaquin, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Pighills, Shuttleworth, Solloway and Sutcliffe.

Officers – Democratic Services Manager.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harbron and Hull.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 7.25pm

Confirmation of Minutes –

The minutes of the Select Committee meeting held on 17 April 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Public Participation –

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Declarations of Interest –

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes for Report

OS.426

STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN LOCAL AND COMBINED AUTHORITIES

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented an update on guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in May 2019.

The Democratic Services Manager advised that the guidance had been produced following a commitment that Government had made in early 2018, following on from the Communities and Local Government Select Committee's inquiry into Overview and Scrutiny.

The key areas of discussion were:

- Members welcomed the report, particularly in terms of outlining the key role of overview and scrutiny in holding the authority's decision-makers to account.
- Concern that there was no reference in the report to the "committee system" operated by some local authorities, including Craven District Council (CDC). Members were of the view that the Council's Select Committee exercised its duties extremely well, particularly in terms of recommending a number of positive improvements to delivering services.

Resolved – That the update on statutory guidance on overview and scrutiny in local and combined authorities, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), is noted.

OS.427

WORK PROGRAMME

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented a draft work programme for the 2019/ 20 municipal year.

The following information was appended to the report:

- Draft work programme together with potential areas for review by Select Committee in 2019/20
- A copy of the latest Forward Plan (January 2019)
- Climate Change Policy Research.

The key areas of discussion were:

- **Hellifield Station** – One Member suggested that the Select Committee reviewed some of the issues associated with access to Hellifield Station. Members were reminded that it was important for Select Committee to only undertake reviews where a clear outcome could be demonstrated. It was advised that further background information was needed before the Select Committee was in a position to agree terms of reference. It was acknowledged that the views of the relevant County Councillor and Parish Council would need to be sought as part of any future work undertaken.
- **Waste Management Working Group** – Members expressed support for setting up a Waste Management Working Group, particularly focussing on lane-end collections. It was advised that initial consideration of the main issues could be provided at the October meeting when the Committee was already scheduled to receive an evaluation report on the Commercial Waste Service. Councillor Andy Solloway indicated that he would be available to Chair meetings of the Waste Management Working Group. It was anticipated that one or two working group meetings would be required.
- **Planning Enforcement and Building Control Working Group** – Members highlighted the need to establish a Planning Enforcement and Building Control Working Group following submission of Select Committee's review on Development Control Performance. The Democratic Services Manager advised that it was his intention to submit the review on Development Control Performance to the July meeting of Select Committee for approval by Members. Councillor Brian Shuttleworth indicated that he would be available to Chair meetings of the Planning Enforcement and Building Control Working Group. The Chairman suggested that the Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration and the Planning Services Manager be invited to attend the July meeting of Select Committee to provide an initial assessment of the key issues.
- **Green Theme** – Members discussed a potential review of the Green Theme, particularly highlighting those areas that the Council was performing well and areas for improvement. It was advised that there was a need to benchmark against other local authorities to help formulate best practice. The Democratic Services Manager advised that an analysis of the Council's CPFA Nearest Neighbours was one option for the Select Committee to consider. The Chairman suggested that the Director of Services, Environment and Housing Manager and the Lead Member for Greener Craven be invited to attend the October meeting of Select Committee to provide an initial assessment of the main issues.

Resolved – That subject to the comments above, the work programme for 2019/20, as amended, is approved.

OS.428

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chairman requested that the North Yorkshire Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner be contacted to ask whether there was still an opportunity for Select Committee to provide a formal response to the recent consultation exercise that had taken place. It was noted that the deadline for responses had now passed. The Democratic Services Manager agreed to find out and report back to Members.

The dates of future meetings were noted as follows:

- Select (Crime and Disorder) Committee – Wednesday, 26 June 2019 at 6.30pm
- Select Committee – Wednesday, 17 July 2019 at 6.30pm.

(All Select Committee meetings for 2019/20 to commence at 6.30pm)

Chairman