

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Economic Development, Culture and Leisure Scrutiny Panel held on Wednesday, 21 August 2019 at 5.30 pm in the Civic Offices, Portsmouth

Present

Councillor George Fielding (in the Chair)
Councillor Jeanette Smith

10. Apologies for absence (AI 1)

These had been received from Councillors Frank Jonas, Hugh Mason, Will Purvis and Robert New. Directors Stephen Baily and Tristan Samuels also sent their apologies but were represented at the meeting.

11. Declarations of Members' Interests (AI 2)

None.

12. Minutes of Previous Meeting - 27 February 2019 (AI 3)

Councillor Fielding confirmed that this was an accurate record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 February 2019 be approved as a correct record to be signed by the Chair.

13. Review of Portsmouth International Port - Sign off of the panel's report (AI 4)

Mike Sellers, Port Director, had sent his apologies for this meeting.

Councillor Fielding, as Chair, was satisfied that the final report covered the objectives set in the scoping of the review, and the panel's 9 recommendations were being submitted to Cabinet for approval, subject to the necessary finance being available.

Councillor Smith raised the issue of risk assessment especially regarding Brexit implications. This would be part of the implementation of recommendations and it was reported that Mike Sellers is part of the Local Resilience Forum and is heavily involved in the contingency planning for Brexit. It was also noted that the recognition of Portsmouth International Port as part of PCC still needed to be moved forward.

The final report would be submitted to Cabinet on 9th September, to be presented by the Chair or another member of the panel.

RESOLVED that the EDCL Scrutiny Panel sign-off the final report on the review of Portsmouth International Port, for submission to Cabinet.

14. Consideration of future topics (AI 5)

Claire Looney, Partnership & Commissioning Manager, represented Stephen Baily, Director of Culture, Leisure & Regulatory Services, who had submitted a briefing list of 6 potential topics to explain why each topic would be suitable and what could be covered and which specialists could be involved:

- i) Heritage Regeneration
- ii) Access to Culture & Leisure
- iii) Performance Venues
- iv) Visitor Economy
- v) Volunteers
- vi) Food Economy

In discussing these it was noted that the volunteers sector had previously been covered by the panel. Claire Looney explained that the most pressing area for review for the directorate was Heritage Regeneration and the Conservation Officer from Planning could also be involved.

Ian Maguire, Assistant Director City Development, represented Tristan Samuels, Director of Regeneration. Whilst he was fairly new in post and would be undertaking his own examination of different parts of the directorate he had suggestions for potential areas for review:

- i) Enterprise Centres and the Learning Place, regarding PCC's learning centres
- ii) Economic Development & Regeneration Strategy - this was about to be approved by Cabinet and so this would need a couple of years in place before its effectiveness could be examined
- iii) City Centres - it was not felt this was the best time to review these

Another topic that was ruled out due to the scale of it was the use of PCC owned properties.

The AGREED priority order of topics to be submitted to Scrutiny Management Panel (which would be meeting on 18 September) was agreed as:

- i) Heritage Regeneration**
- ii) Access to Culture & Leisure**
- iii) Food Economy**
- iv) Visitor Economy**

(As not all members of the panel had been able to attend this information would be circulated to them prior to the SMP meeting.)

The meeting concluded at 6.00 pm.

Councillor George Fielding, Chair