

Chairman – Councillor R P Cooke

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

A R G Brown

R Kenney

B M Cross

J A Nixon

A S Harp

G P K Pardesi

R A James

W J Kemp

Cabinet Member - Councillor J K Price - Environment Portfolio

Cabinet Member - Councillor R M Smith - Resources Portfolio

Cabinet Member - Councillor C V Trowbridge - Leisure Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Mr I Curran - Head of Law and Administration

Mr R Simpson - Head of Operations

Dr T Redpath - Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager

Mr R Wolfe - Revenues and Benefits Manager

Mr A Bailey - Scrutiny Officer

RSC1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 11 February 2021, as published in Digest No 274, were submitted and signed.

RSC2 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M G Dodson, A T A Godfrey (Substitute W J Kemp) and P Roycroft (Substitute B M Cross).

During the discussion that ensued, concern was expressed over the recent High Court Decision to allow face to face meetings at this time and the need to continue to lobby Government to allow a long-term hybrid solution.

RSC3 Recovery Programme Update

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager (**V1 28/05/2021**) that provided Members with an update regarding the work that had been undertaken in quarter 4 as part of the Recovery Programme.

The Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager outlined the difficulties and challenges that lay ahead for each of the recovery workstreams as officers tried to navigate through a third lockdown and continue to respond to the pandemic at the same time as delivering business as usual. All of the four recovery workstreams were continuing to gain an understanding of the longer-term impact of the pandemic on the economy, community and our own activities. At present, this was being kept under constant review as the landscape in which we are working is subject to continual change.

Following the introduction, the Committee discussed the following aspects of the report:-

- A vote of thanks to all staff from the Chairman on behalf of all the Committee for all their hard work and commitment demonstrated throughout the Pandemic
- A request for the Economic Recovery Group to investigate the future of the Guildhall Hall Shopping Centre in Stafford

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be noted.

RSC4 Quarter 4 Performance Monitoring

The Committee considered the performance management details for those areas within the remit of the Committee for the quarter 4 period up to 31 March 2021 (**V1 28/05/2021**).

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager:-

- LI21 – Days Taken to process new Housing Benefit/Council Tax Claims – Congratulations on improved performance
- 3.1.2 – Improve Services – Planning performance to be scrutinised by the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the performance management data relating to areas of activity within this Committee's remit be noted.

RSC5 Complaints Monitoring 2020/21

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration (V1 06/05/2021) in relation to Corporate Complaints and complaints referred by the Local Government Ombudsman during 2020/21.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Head of Law and Administration:-

- Recording of Stage 1 Complaints
- Timescales for acknowledging Complaints

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be noted.

RSC6 Business Planning Report

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration (V1 06/05/21) which presented Members with a review of the programme of business considered by the Committee in 2019/21.

The Committee noted that during the last Municipal Year they had considered a wide variety of issues affecting the Resources Portfolio and had completed two Task and Finish Reviews relating to the Review of the Constitution.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be approved and submitted as the Annual Report to the Council.

RSC7 Work Programme - Resources Scrutiny Committee

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration, which presented the Resources Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the forthcoming meetings up to February 2022.

The Committee noted that the Freedom Leisure Annual report would be submitted to the next meeting and that Members of the Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee be invited to attend the meeting.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme be approved.

CHAIR