

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (PERFORMANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES)

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT
ON TUESDAY 11TH JUNE, 2013**

PRESENT: Councillor McGinnity (in the Chair)
Councillors Byrom, Ashton, Booth, M. Dowd,
Kermode, P. Maguire and McIvor

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dawson, Robinson and Weavers.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. CABINET MEMBER REPORTS

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services that included the most recent reports from the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services and Performance and the Cabinet Member - Communities and Environment relating to those parts of their portfolios that fell within the remit of this Committee. Members' queries were noted for follow-up with the appropriate Officers.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the update reports from the Cabinet Member – Corporate Services and Performance and the Cabinet Member – Communities and Environment be received;
- (2) the Head of Governance and Civic Services be requested to:-
 - (a) contact the Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner with a request that she makes a presentation to this Committee on her proposals to reduce crime and disorder in Sefton; and
 - (b) contact the Sefton District Manager, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, with a request that the Committee undertake an inspection/tour of the new Bootle and Netherton Fire Station and thereafter hold the Committee's meeting at the station;

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- (3) the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT be requested to email the information below to all Committee Members:-
 - (a) the timescales and/or the level of arrears before registered social landlords will take action to evict their tenants following the implementation of the Government's Universal Benefit and "bedroom tax";
 - (b) why the tender process for all Insurances stipulated a 3 year period with an option to extend for a further 2 years. Why was a 3 year period selected?; and
 - (c) violence and intimidation used by illegal money lenders; and
- (4) the Director of Young People and Families be requested to submit a presentation to the next meeting on the Youth Offending Team Improvement Plan.

5. WORK PROGRAMME KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services in relation to the Committee's programme of work and latest Key Decision Forward Plan for period 1 July – 31 October 2013.

The Chair requested that Members of the Committee consider potential topics to review for the Municipal Year 2013/2014.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) it be noted that the items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan had been considered by the Committee;
- (2) in connection with the Welfare Reform update key decision, the Head of Commissioning and Neighbourhood Co-ordination be requested to report on:
 - (a) the impact of the welfare reform changes on tenants in the private rented sector;
 - (b) the impact of the welfare reform proposals on the Sefton Welfare Rights service and the Citizen's Advice Bureau due to the increased demand for their services;
 - (c) the increase in the constituent case workload of Sefton's M.P.s due to the welfare reform changes;
 - (d) an update on the Sefton foodbank operation and uptake; and
 - (e) whether the Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority would consider providing support by issuing free travel tickets/saveaways to enable recipients to travel to their local foodbanks;
- (3) in connection with Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) key decision, the Director of Built Environment be requested to submit a

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report to the next meeting updating on SAMP including the asset disposal policy/criteria; and

- (4) the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT be requested to:
 - (a) make a presentation to the next meeting on the monitoring of the budget and the achievement of savings; and
 - (b) submit a report on the anticipated further budget cuts to local authorities by Government in 2014/15.