

**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, 20 June 2018**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Councillor Jamie Lane (Chair), Councillors Alan Bottwood, Penny Flavell, Luke Graystone and Zoe Smith

**Officers** Phil Harris, Head of Housing and Wellbeing  
Louise Faulkner, Licensing Team Leader  
Katie Young, Senior Regeneration Officer  
Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

**Press** James Averill, Democracy Reporter

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Russell. Councillor Sargeant, Councillor Walker, Councillor G Eales and Councillor Kilby Shaw.

**2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2018 were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

**3. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES**

There were none.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING)**

There were none.

**5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY**

The Committee noted the written explanation in respect of PP06% change in serious acquisitive crime from baseline.

Louise Faulkner, Licensing Team Leader, presented a written briefing note regarding PP07% Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles inspected which comply with regulations and elaborated thereon. It was highlighted that during 2017/2018 426 vehicles had been checked.

Phil Harris, Head of Housing and Wellbeing, presented a brief regarding HML01 – total number of households living in temporary accommodation and HM107 – number of households that are prevented from becoming homeless; the salient points were highlighted.

The Committee asked questions, made comment and heard:

- People presenting as needing temporary accommodation is exceeding those leaving this type of accommodation
- 55% of people living in temporary accommodation is in relation to those losing private rented housing

AGREED: That the updates are noted.

## **6. MONITORING OF O&S REPORTS**

### **(A) HOMELESSNESS (PRE DECISION SCRUTINY)**

Phil Harris, Head of Housing and Wellbeing, presented the action plan in relation to the accepted recommendations contained within the O&S Report: Homelessness (Pre Decision Scrutiny) and highlighted the key points.

The Committee asked questions, made comment and heard:

- In response to concerns regarding delays listed on the action plan, Phil Harris advised that the service area was exceedingly busy. For example, a Review of Homelessness is a huge piece of work – a 5 year Homeless Strategy has been produced but additional resources are needed.
- In response to a query regarding the rough sleepers count and whether feedback was provided to Government; Phil Harris advised that not currently but it could be provided.
- In answer to a question whether Unitary status could have an impact regarding Policy going forward, Phil Harris confirmed it is expected to and discussions are ongoing.
- The Committee was concerned regarding the increase in rents in the private sector.

Phil Harris was thanked for his update.

AGREED: That a further update is provided to the November 2018 meeting of this Committee.

### **(B) ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

The Chair confirmed that all actions were now completed therefore monitoring is complete.

### **(C) EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING**

Louise Faulkner, Licensing Team Leader, provided an update on the actions contained within the O&S Report: Effectiveness of the Enforcement of Taxi and Private Hire Licensing; highlighting the salient points. She displayed the new plate brackets to the Committee.

The Chair asked for a further update to be presented to the January 2019 meeting of this Committee.

AGREED: That a further update be presented to the January 2019 meeting of this Committee.

#### **(D) MATCH DAY PARKING**

Katie Young, Senior Regeneration Officer, provided a written brief to the Committee; elaborating on the salient points. The Committee welcomed the work done and was pleased to hear the final meeting of the Working Group was set for early July 2018.

AGREED: That the update is noted and there is no further monitoring required.

#### **(E) NBC OWNED STREET LIGHTING**

Katie Young, Senior Regeneration Officer, provided a written brief to the Committee; elaborating on the salient points.

The Chair requested that there is a further update to the November meeting of this Committee.

AGREED: That a further update is presented to the November meeting of this Committee.

### **7. SCRUTINY PANELS**

#### **8. SCRUTINY PANEL 1**

Councillor Smith, Deputy Chair, Scrutiny Panel 1, presented the scope for approval.

AGREED: That the scope of the Review for Scrutiny Panel 1 is approved.

#### **9. SCRUTINY PANEL 2**

Councillor Flavell, member of Scrutiny Panel 2, presented the scope for approval.

AGREED: That the scope of the Review for Scrutiny Panel 2 is approved.

#### **10. SCRUTINY PANEL 3**

Councillor Lane, member of Scrutiny Panel 3, presented the scope for approval.

AGREED: That the scope of the Review for Scrutiny Panel 3 is approved.

### **11. EVALUATION OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Lane, Chair of the Working Group, presented the scope for approval.

AGREED: That the scope of the Scrutiny Activity: Evaluation of Overview and Scrutiny Reports is approved.

## **12. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORTING AND MONITORING WORKING GROUP**

The Chair gave background to the Overview and Scrutiny Reporting and Monitoring Working Group. There was a need to confirm the membership for 2018/2019.

Meetings were confirmed as:

- 12 November 2018
- 8 January 2019

Commencing at 5:15pm

Due to the number of apologies, it was AGREED that the Scrutiny Officer would contact the Committee asking Councillors with an interest to be a member of this Group to confirm this.

## **13. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018**

The Chair presented the O&S Annual Report for 2017/2018 for the Committee's consideration and approval.

AGREED: That the O&S Annual Report for 2017/2018 is approved and presented to full Council in July 2018.

## **14. REPORT BACK FROM NBC'S REPRESENTATIVE TO NCC'S HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The update from Councillor Sargeant, NBC's representative to NCC's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee was noted.

## **15. NBCS REPRESENTATIVE, AND DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE, TO NCC'S HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Chair advised that there is a need to elect a new NBCs Representative, and Deputy Representative, to NCC's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee, however, due to the number of apologies, it was AGREED that the Scrutiny Officer would contact the Committee asking Councillors with an interest to let her know.

## **16. POTENTIAL FUTURE PRE DECISION SCRUTINY**

There was none.

## **17. URGENT ITEMS**

There was none.