

Minutes

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| Name of meeting | SPECIAL CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
| Date and time | THURSDAY, 1 AUGUST 2019 AT 5.00 PM |
| Venue | COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT |
| Present | Cllrs Andrew Garratt (Chair), Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Michael Lilley, John Nicholson, Brian Tyndall |
| Co-opted (Voting) | Gill Kennett (IWALC Rep) |
| Cabinet Members | Cllr John Hobart, Clare Mosdell |
| Also Present | Helen Miles, John Metcalfe, Claire Shand, Paul Thistlewood, Megan Tuckwell |

23. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2019 be confirmed, subject to an amendment to Cllr Fullers declaration of interest.

24. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Cllr Fuller declared an interest in item 25 as a member of the Audit Committee.

Cllr Tyndall declared an interest in item 25 as chairman of the Audit Committee.

Gill Kennett declared an interest in item 25 as she sat on the public health Committee regarding the PEACH programme.

25. [Call In – Developing a Strategic Partnership for Public Health between Hampshire County Council and the Isle of Wight Council](#)

The Committee considered the call in of the decision taken by Cabinet on 11 July 2019, to develop a strategic partnership for public health between Hampshire County Council and the Isle of Wight Council. The chairman advised that the Committee could only make a recommendation to Cabinet and could not amend the decision.

Cllr Lilley presented the reasons for the call-in. This was, in summary, that questions had been submitted to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Housing Needs, who reassured that they would be answered

and be presented to the Cabinet prior to taking a decision. However, only a flavour of the questions were presented and therefore the Cabinet were unable to consider all available information.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the decision taken by the Cabinet was lawful. The Assistant Director of Finance provided a statement confirming that the decision was within the Council's Policy Framework and budget.

In response to the call in, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Housing Needs noted that the decision to develop a strategic partnership for public health had appeared on the Forward Plan in April 2019 and that the relevant Committees had not expressed concern or provided feedback.

The Cabinet Member and Chief Executive addressed the concerns raised in the call in. The Cabinet Member advised that the degree of information contained within the report was proportionate to the level of risk. The letter of from the Director of Public Health England endorsing the partnership was deemed sufficient for the purposes of enabling the Cabinet to make an informed decision.

With regards to the public health service facing difficulties and requiring intervention, it was advised that this was identified during the LGA Peer Challenge in 2017. Hampshire County Council subsequently undertook a review of public health delivery on the Island (including the viability of a permanent partnership) as part of their own due diligence. The outcomes of this review were consistent with that of the LGA Peer Challenge.

Examples were provided to demonstrate that the interim arrangements had been effective at improving the public health service. The Chief Executive provided further clarity with regards to cost recovery and the anomalies raised by the External Auditor. It was advised that the Public Health Annual Report 2017-18 was now available, and the Annual Complaints Report had historically not been published but this would now be rectified.

Questions were raised regarding impact on staff and it was advised that a restructure was needed regardless of the partnership. It was confirmed that the responsibility for public health would remain with the Isle of Wight Council and it was not a matter of 'handing over' responsibility to Hampshire.

Following discussion, a vote was taken, and it was;

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT in light of the information and clarification provided by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Housing Needs and the Chief Executive, the decision made by the Cabinet be accepted.
- ii) THAT an item be added to the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care workplan to review the delivery of Public Health in 6 months' time.

CHAIRMAN