

Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday, 21st November, 2013
Time: 10.30 am
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Whipping Declarations**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

4. **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24 October 2013** (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve the minutes as a correct record

For requests for further information

Contact: Katie Smith

Tel: 01270 686465

E-Mail: katie.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

5. **Public Speaking/Open Session**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research, it would be helpful if members of the public contacted the Scrutiny officer listed at the foot of the agenda, at least one working day before the meeting to provide brief details of the matter to be covered.

6. **Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service - Our Vision for Making Cheshire Safer**

To receive a presentation on the proposed changes to the Fire Authority by Richard Ost, Assistant Chief Fire Officer.

7. **Route Management Studies - Progress to date**

To give consideration to the methodology followed and routes that have been reviewed to date – report to follow

8. **Work Programme (Pages 5 - 12)**

To give consideration to the work programme

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 24th October, 2013 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)

Councillors A Barratt, M Grant, M Parsons, F Keegan and R West

In Attendance

Councillors L Brown and A Moran

Officers

P Evans - Programme & Commercial Manager

J Griffiths - Community Safety Operations Manager

34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Andrew and J Saunders.

35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of Interest

36 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations

37 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2013

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting. In relation to minute 31, the Chairman informed the Committee that he had contacted the Police and Crime Commissioner with regard to specialist domestic abuse funding and was awaiting a written response. He was also awaiting a written response from Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group regarding the lack of funding in the North of the borough for a specialist domestic abuse worker. The Committee agreed that the Chairman should write to both parties requesting a response to the Committees queries.

RESOLVED

1. That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.
2. That the Chairman writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group requesting a response to the Committees queries relating to funding.

38 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

Councillor A Moran spoke in respect of minute 40 – Carbon Reduction Programme, Street Lighting. He requested that Town and Parish Councils be consulted on the next phase of works as this had not previously happened.

39 CHESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - OUR VISION FOR MAKING CHESHIRE SAFER

It was agreed that due to the Assistant Chief Fire Officer being unable to attend this meeting, the item be deferred until the next meeting, scheduled to be held on 21 November 2013.

40 CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMME - STREET LIGHTING

Further to the meeting held on 19 September 2013, the Committee scrutinised whether or not:

- There had been any safety issues as a result of the switch off,
- The decision had reduced the Council's carbon footprint,
- The decision had reduced costs.

With regard to the next phase of work to introduce Part Night lighting into residential areas across the borough, Members highlighted the importance of a full consultation exercise taking place as this had previously been a weakness. It was agreed that the consultation should take place in the following order:

- Police – crime and highways
- CCTV
- Fire Authority
- Specialist groups
- Ward Councillors
- Town and Parish Councillors
- General public

Members agreed that the energy bills needed to reflect the changes made by the Council and that as the exact financial savings were currently unclear this issue should be scrutinised by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

It was noted that there was no requirement to provide street lighting, however there was a requirement to maintain it. It was therefore proposed that any redundant equipment would be removed.

Members raised concern that street lighting may be required again in the future and suggested that any cabling and conduit should remain in place. New builds also needed to be considered, strategic planning should be minded to consider the impact of street lighting on new developments and surrounding infrastructure when giving consideration to planning applications.

Members noted that the number and type of complaints were currently being collated, however they broadly related to cycle and walkways and the A523 being considered to be unsafe.

RESOLVED

1. That the officer be thanked for his attendance
2. That the Corporate Scrutiny Committee be recommended to scrutinise the suggested financial savings.

That the Portfolio Holder be recommended to approve that:

3. With regard to the next phase of works, a full consultation exercise takes place in the following order:
 - Police – crime and highways
 - CCTV
 - Fire Authority
 - Specialist groups
 - Ward Councillors
 - Town and Parish Councillors
 - General public
4. Strategic Planning take note of the potential impact of street lighting on new developments and surrounding infrastructure.

41 CCTV CONTROL ROOM STAFFING

Further to the meeting held on 19 September 2013, the Chairman commenced the debate by suggesting that CCTV was one of the Councils most important assets; however it was not being fully optimised. There were concerns regarding staffing difficulties, therefore questioning the ability to deal with a major incident and provide coverage during sickness and holidays.

The Community Safety Operations Manager circulated an example of the staffing rota and informed the Committee that there were 10 Members of staff; four, two man teams and two 'floaters' to cover busy periods, holidays and sickness. There was a minimum of two members of staff on duty, however, Members noted that there was only one member of staff on duty during breaks and lunch breaks. The rota was implemented following a full consultation exercise and vote on the preferred option. The preferred option was suggested by a member of staff.

Members agreed that cutting the staffing budget may be false economy if it resulted in the cameras not being manned properly. Members also agreed that the Council had a duty of care towards the staff as they worked under pressure and may suffer trauma and stress as a result of witnessing some incidents.

It was unclear how many CCTV cameras were in operation within the borough, Members agreed that the exact number would be reported back to the Committee.

Following consideration of the evidence received, Members were of the opinion that 10 members of staff was the bare minimum and that the structure did not allow for major incidents, holidays or sickness, it was therefore agreed that Councillor Barratt would meet with the operators to ascertain their views on the suitability of the rota and staffing levels.

RESOLVED

1. That the officer be thanked for his attendance.
2. That Councillor A Barratt meets with the CCTV Operators and report his findings back to the Committee.
3. The exact number of CCTV cameras be reported back to the Committee.
4. That the Portfolio Holder give consideration to increasing the budget as there appeared to be no resilience within the system with regard to staffing.

42 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the work programme.

RESOLVED

1. That the deferred presentation by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service be received on 21 November 2013.
2. That a response to the following questions be considered at a future meeting:

What steps does the Council take to ensure that none of its facilities are used for online gambling and what websites have been banned?

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 12.55 pm

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting:	21 November 2013
Report of:	Interim Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title:	Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2012/2013 Work Programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

That the 2012/2013 work programme be reviewed.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Not known at this stage.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 The schedule attached has been updated to reflect the decisions taken by the Committee at its previous meeting.
- 10.2 Members are asked to review the schedule attached to this report, and if appropriate, add new items or delete items that no longer require any scrutiny activity. When selecting potential topics, Members should have regard to the Council's new three year plan and also to the general criteria listed below, which should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate.

The following questions should be asked in respect of each potential work programme item:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority;
 - Is the issue of key interest to the public;
 - Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation;
 - Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends;
 - Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
 - Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service;
- 10.3 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:
- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
 - The matter is subjudice
 - Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Community Safety Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – Last Updated (4 November 2013)

Future Meetings

Date: 21/11/2013 Time: 10.30am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date: 19/12/2013 Time: 10.30am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date: 23/1/2014 Time: 10.30am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date: 20/02/2014 Time: 10.30am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields
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Item	Notes	Lead Officer/ Portfolio Holder	Action to be Taken	Key Dates/Deadlines
Vision for the Fire Authority	To receive a presentation on the proposed changes to the Fire Authority	Cllr L Gilbert Richard Ost, Assistant Chief Fire Officer	Presentation at Committee	21 November 2013
Road Safety Routes Review	To scrutinise the outcome of the Road Safety Routes Review once completed.	K Melling P Evans D Topping	Scrutiny Committee	21 November 2013
Response to Member question	What steps does the Council take to ensure that none of its facilities are used for online gambling and what websites have been banned?	G Pawlett	Scrutiny Committee	21 November
Flood Risk Management	The Flood & Water Management Act 2010 made amendment to the Local Government Act 2000, under Section 21F, requiring all Lead Local Flood Authorities to	P Reeves	Scrutiny Committee	19 December 2013

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	review and scrutinise the actions of Flood Risk Management Authorities that may affect the local authority's area. *			
CCTV Review Update	Scrutinise the outcomes of the review	P Hartwell L Gilbert	Scrutiny Committee	TBA
Probation Service	To receive an update presentation on the changes to the Probation service	Cllr L Gilbert S Link	Presentation at Scrutiny Committee	TBA
Anti Social Behaviour	What is Cheshire East doing to address anti social behaviour. Future plans/budget	Cllr L Gilbert L Woodrow-Hurst	Scrutiny Committee To outline the Local Authority's role as lead organisation for Anti Social behaviour	TBA

*Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and its associated Regulations; the European Union Flood Directive 2009 together with associated Regulations; Cheshire East Council is statutorily required as the lead local flood authority to meet certain requirements in relation to Flood and Water Management. Moreover, following the Pitt Review the Council is expected to meet certain expectations. Under the Regulations and the expectations of the Pitt Review it is intended that the Council's scrutiny procedure should review work by public sector bodies and essential service providers in order to manage flood risk. Also, that there

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should be an annual summary of actions taken locally to manage flood risk in order to meet the regulations and to implement the appropriate recommendations of the Pitt Review.

Items completed for Monitoring or update

Item	Date Completed	Status	Lead Officer	Possible Future Action

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