

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

6.00 P.M.

27TH MARCH 2024

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Brett Cooper (Chair), Suhir Abuhajar, Martin Gawith, Chris Hanna, Sally Maddocks, Abi Mills and Sue Penney

Also in Attendance:-

Councillor Tim Hamilton-Cox - Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Finance

Officers in Attendance:-

Jonathan Noad	Chief Officer - Sustainable Growth
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer
Jenny Kay	Civic & Ceremonial Democratic Support Officer

**56 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

The Chair requested nominations for Vice-Chair of the Committee.

It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Abi Mills and unanimously agreed :

“That Councillor Sally Maddocks be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.”

***Resolved :-***

That Councillor Sally Maddocks be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

**57 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**58 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no Items of Urgent Business.

**59 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**60 UPDATE ON THE DRAFT FLY TIPPING STRATEGY**

The Committee considered a briefing note detailing the work that was being undertaken to produce a Fly Tipping Strategy for the City Council. As the Chief Officer – Environment and Place was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed to defer this item until the May meeting.

***Resolved :-***

That the update on the Draft Fly Tipping Strategy be deferred until the May meeting of the Committee.

**61 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was unanimously agreed :-

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

***Resolved :-***

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

**62 EDEN PROJECT MORECAMBE UPDATE**

The Chair welcomed the Chief Officer – Sustainable Growth to the meeting.

The Committee was provided with a detailed overview of the progress of Eden Project Morecambe. Information was provided on key dates for the project and

Members of the Committee asked a number of questions relating to the project.

***Resolved :-***

- (1) That the Chief Officer – Sustainable Growth be thanked for his attendance at the meeting.
- (2) That the update be noted.

**The Press and Public were re-admitted to the meeting.**

**63 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered the updated Work Programme.

The Chair advised that he had met with the Chief Executive to discuss the way forward with the Fair Tax motion that had been referred to the Committee. Members discussed how to proceed with scoping a Task Group for this piece of work and agreed not to move forward with a Task Group.

Members of the Committee were of the opinion that this work would seem to duplicate work already being undertaken by the Audit Committee, namely undertaking a procurement and contracts review, and therefore the motion the Committee had been requested to undertake work on would seem to be a duplication of work and use of City Council officer time and resources.

It was agreed that this issue would be referred to the Audit Committee for consideration.

It was reported that an update on the current model of the Health Care System would be provided at the 29th May 2004 meeting.

***Resolved :-***

That the Fair Tax motion be referred to the Audit Committee for consideration.

**64 FORTHCOMING KEY DECISIONS**

Members of the Committee wished to discuss and ask questions of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Finance, who was in attended at the meeting, upon the Key Decision regarding Commercial property disposal, Lancaster that was included on the List of Forthcoming Key Decisions. It was noted that this issue was exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3, of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act.

It was unanimously agreed and resolved :-

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

**The Press and Public left the meeting.**

The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Finance, who was present at the meeting, answered questions from Members of the Committee on the Key Decision.

**The Press and Public were re-admitted to the meeting.**

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 7.07 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Jenny Kay, Democratic Support - email [jkay@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:jkay@lancaster.gov.uk)**