

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE
BOURGES & VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH
ON
WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 2014**

Present: Councillors Khan (Chairman), Stokes (Vice Chairman), Day, Peach, Forbes Okonkowski and Fox

Also Present: Councillor Serluca Cabinet Member for City Centre for Management, Culture and Tourism.

Officers in Attendance: Adrian Chapman Assistant Director for Communities and Targeted Services
Dominic Hudson Strategic Partnerships Manager
Lisa Helin Strategic Client Manager: Culture and Leisure
Mark Woolner Head of Community and Safety Services
Karen S Dunleavy Governance Officer

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

There were no declarations of Interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2014

The minutes of the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26 March 2014 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions

There were no requests for Call-in to consider.

5. Role of the Committee in its Capacity as the Statutory Crime and Disorder Committee

The report was introduced by the Head of Community and Safety Services to provide the Committee with the overview report, detailing the role of the Committee in its capacity as the Crime and Disorder Committee, particularly in scrutinising the Safer Peterborough Partnership (SPP) 2014 to 2017.

The Committee was advised by the Head of Community and Safety Services that it was intended to present a report outlining the key themes and performance figures of the SPP progress in terms of monitoring crime.

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Members raised concerns around the performance figures recently captured for crime recorded by the SPP and that there did not seem to be any reduction in criminal activities to date that compared with the 46% figure quoted within the report. *The Head of Community and Safety Services advised Members that the way performance was measured was always being refined*

and developed. In addition, the Committee was advised that a new reporting tool application, namely 'My Peterborough' was due to be launched for use by the public, partners and agencies and was anticipated to improve the method of reporting criminal activities.

- Members requested further information over the advertisement for the launch of the 'My Peterborough' application and whether it was necessary to produce a whole page advert in the Peterborough Evening Telegraph? Members were advised that it was not clear why a full-page advert was placed, however the advertisement campaign had been widely received in a positive way.
- Members commented that they would find it beneficial to receive evidence or a snapshot of the activities implemented in order to monitor and reduce crime. Members were informed that for future reports, agencies would provide a narrative around the data, which would outline the activities introduced to reduce crime.
- Members commented that it would be beneficial for them to receive information regarding police resources within their ward area.
- Members commented that there seemed to be no evidence of PCSOs opportunity to become accustomed with one community's issues, as they were responsible for patrolling more than one ward area.

AGREED ACTION

The Committee noted the content of the report and agreed to schedule a methodology of how the Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan would be scrutinised as detailed in the report.

It was agreed that the Head of Community and Safety Services would provide:

- Information regarding the number of police resources such as Warranted Officers, PCSOs and Community Safety Officers within their area; and
- Details of the PCSOs on duty within a Councillor's ward area at any one time by shift pattern.

It was also agreed that the Assistant Director for Communities and Targeted Services would reschedule the:

- Addressing Crime by Tackling Offending report due to be presented to Committee on 3 September 2014 to 15 October 2014; and
- The Antisocial Behaviour report to be received on 3 September 2014 rather than 15 October 2014.

6. A Strategy for Culture, Recreation and the Arts for Peterborough

The Strategic Partnerships Manager and the Strategic Client Manager for Culture and Leisure introduced the report to the Committee, which outlined the draft Culture Strategy for Peterborough. Members of the Committee were also advised that following consultation and incorporation of all comments, it was intended to share the final strategy with partners and Full Council in September 2014.

Key visions and priorities summarised within the report included:

- More people, more often – increasing participation in and enjoyment of cultural activities;
- Developing, retaining and attracting people with talent;
- Places to go and things to do – making the best use of our city spaces;
- Raising the profile of culture and increasing participation within the City; and
- Raising the profile of the City through culture and increase visitor numbers.

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Members commented regarding the minor references to Vivacity, the Council's Culture contractor and that there seemed to be a focus on high-level as opposed to more universal

activities such as the Peterborough Annual Beer Festival. *The Strategic Client Manager for Culture and Leisure advised the Committee that the themes such as people and places were intended to capture a breadth and mixed level of events. The Strategy had been intended to give a breadth of diversity and a holistic approach by liaising with Vivacity to attract a wide range of activities in the City.*

- Members sought clarification over why Vivacity had not been responsible for producing the Culture Strategy for Peterborough. *The Strategic Partnerships Manager advised Members that the Culture Strategy was a Council owned document and that it held responsibility due to its management of the major policy framework. However, Vivacity had provided support to shape the content as they held the expertise in arts and culture. In addition, there would be an opportunity to explore the option of delegating the responsibility for monitoring the strategy in the future by Vivacity.*
- Members sought clarification over whether there were opportunities to provide financial support for communities to hold lower-level cultural events? *The Strategic Client Manager for Culture and Leisure advised Members that a new funding stream was due to be introduced and administered by Vivacity, namely Connective Culture. The £2k funds could be used towards providing support to a community or individual group event, or to organise a forum to combine funds to purchase bigger items such as a stage;*
- Members sought clarification over what was being introduced to encourage different cultures participation in sports such as speedway? *Members were advised that a separate visitor economy strategy was to encompass sports events and was due to be produced later in the year;*
- Members commented on the proposition detailed within the report to merge groups such as the heritage steering group with the culture strategy steering group to form the 'Culture Peterborough'. *Members were informed that there had been lots of disparate reporting by a wide range of culture committees and the aim had been to unify all groups, which was intended to also include involvement from the private sector groups;*
- Members commented that the Broadway theatre should be included within the Culture Peterborough and that the Council should encourage the purchase of the premises to Vivacity. *Members were advised that reference had been made regarding the Broadway theatre within the Culture Strategy and would be encouraged to join Culture Peterborough. The owners of the privately operated premises were currently evaluating their financial position;*
- The Committee commented that the Culture Strategy should be a rolling document to allow for updates as and when required. *The Strategic Partnerships Manager advised the Committee that the draft document had undertaken an extensive consultation process in order to obtain the view of Members, which had included its second visit to the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee (SCSC). The Culture Strategy would be reviewed on an annual basis and the findings reported back to the SCSC alongside any other relevant committees and steering groups.*

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommended that the Culture Strategy included the following:

- Make the reference to the importance of the Peterborough Beer Festival within the Culture Strategy clearer.
- Consideration in encouraging organisations to work together.
- Consideration of the inclusion of wording such as 'Lots of People and One City' into the Core Strategy priority 3: Places to go and things to do – making the best use of our city spaces.
- That the proposal for the Cultural Steering Group should include minority groups from other cultural backgrounds.

ACTION AGREED

Members noted the report and the draft strategy, provided comments on the approach and content. In particular to whether the Committee:

- Supported the vision and priorities summarised within the report;
- Wished to make any further observations on the strategy in order to inform the next, final draft.

It was agreed that the progress reports as part of the Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism portfolio, would encompass an update on funding for individual groups and communities cultural events, when it is reported back to Committee.

7. Review of 2013/2014 and Work Programme for 2014/2015.

Review of 2013/2014

The Governance Officer introduced a report to the Committee on the review of work undertaken during 2013/14. Members of the Committee were invited to review, comment and make any recommendations on future monitoring to be undertaken in Municipal Year 2014/2015. Members of the Committee were also invited to identify an item for inclusion on the 2014/2015 Work Programme.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee agreed to the future monitoring of the:

- Impact on Welfare Reform; and
- The impact and investment of financial and social benefits arising from the Scrutiny in a Day event to be reported in January 2015.

It was also agreed that the Committee would receive briefing notes on:

- Progress updates regarding the lines of enquiry from the impact and investment arising from Scrutiny in a Day event; and
- Aspects of Public Health performance framework that aligned with the remit of the SCSC.

Work Programme for 2014/2015

The purpose of the report was to provide the Committee with a list of possible items to be included in the Committee's 2014/2015 Work Programme. Members were requested to note the remit of the Committee and the items highlighted for the 2014/2015 work programme and suggest any items for future consideration.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee agreed to receive the work programme items outlined for 2014 - 2015.

In addition the Committee agreed:

- To receive progress reports as part of the Cabinet Member's for Communities and Environment Capital portfolio;
- That the 'Addressing Crime by Tackling Offending' report due to be presented to Committee in September would be moved to October; and
- The 'Antisocial Behaviour' report to be received in September rather than October.

8. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Committee received the latest version of the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions, containing key decisions that the Leader of the Council anticipated the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the course of the forthcoming month. Members were invited to comment on the Plan and, where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's work programme.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the Forward Plan of Key Decisions and requested further information on:

- Peterborough City Customer Strategy; and
- Care and Repair Framework.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The Chairman advised that the next date of the Meeting for Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee was due to be held on 3 September 2014.

The meeting began at 7.00pm and ended at 8:10pm

CHAIRMAN

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