OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday, 14 July 2020 at 7pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Axam, Davies, Dorn, Farmer, Makepeace-Browne, Smith, Wright, Wildsmith, Worlock (Chairman)

In Attendance: Oliver, Cockarill, Quarterman, Crookes

Officers:

Mark Jaggard  Head of Place Services
Daniel Hawes  Planning Policy Manager
Glyn Lloyd  Commercialisation Manager
Emma Whittaker  Planning Services Manager
Martina Duffin  Committee Services
Helen Vincent  Committee Services

10 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 16 June 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Lamb.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA)

None.

14 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (RIPA) – ANNUAL REVIEW OF USEAGE

The Monitoring Officer to confirm that there was no use of RIPA powers during 2019/2020.

DECISION

Overview and Scrutiny noted the report.
15 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

To consider the case for introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Mark Jaggard, Head of Place Services, and Daniel Hawes, Planning Policy & Economic Development Manager attended to present the report which set out the case for Council to undertake the process to set and implement CIL. The Committee would see the draft charging schedule and work schedule going forward.

Members discussed the report and sought clarification on a number of points. The questions were in relation to:
- The process and project plan for setting and implementing CIL;
- How CIL would work for small, medium and strategic sites, and how the balance between CIL and S106 legal agreements could work;
- How CIL is calculated, and what is included in the floorspace; and
- How the income from CIL would be collected, prioritised and spent on infrastructure.

DECISION

The Committee welcomed the report agreed to recommend to Cabinet that officers undertake the processes to implement the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The Committee asked to see and consider the draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule before it is consulted upon.

Members thanked Daniel Hawes and Mark Jaggard for their informative and well-presented report.

16 COMMERCIALISATION STRATEGY– REVIEW OF ASSETS-BASED PROCUREMENT PROCESS

To review the processes for the procurement of assets-based investment.

Glyn Lloyd, Commercialisation Manager, attended to present a review of the purchase process adopted as part of the Commercialisation strategy. The stages were explained with key milestones for decision making highlighted. The Committee discussed and requested clarity on the financial analysis process which was explained. The Commercialisation Manager further confirmed this analysis approach was approved by the S151 officer.

DECISION

Members expressed this report was a good example of a Commercialisation Strategy and the database framework was complimented.
PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PEER REVIEW AND ACTION PLAN

To receive a Peer Review report on the Council’s Planning Development Management service.
Emma Whittaker, Planning Services Manager and Mark Jaggard, Head of Place, attended to discuss the Development Management Peer Review and the Council's draft Action Plan. Officers recommended the establishment of Member Working Group to assist in the consideration of the next steps in relation to the Peer Review outcomes and the draft Action Plan.

Emma Whittaker presented the report and the draft Action Plan. The draft Action Plan was written prior to the Covid-19 lockdown and will now be reviewed, which will also allow the opportunity to pick up on any issues flowing from the Planning White Paper due soon. Members discussed a number of the matters raised in the Peer Review and the 48 recommendations. These will be picked up in detail with the Member Working Party.

DECISION

A Member Working Group was welcomed and the Committee selected four members Councillor Farmer, Councillor Makepeace-Browne, Councillor Smith and Councillor Wildsmith.
Members asked to receive an updated Action Plan at the November meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme was considered and amended as follows:

1. To review the Commercialisation Strategy again before the end of this year.
2. To add Car Parking Charges pre COVID-19 to the programme for January 2021
3. To add the Waste Management Contract to the plan for January 2021.
4. To welcome Heads of Service to attend meetings relative to related topics.