

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Thursday 18 July 2013

Time: 6.00 p.m.

Place: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage

Present: Councillors: S Walker (Chair), M Notley (Vice Chair), L Bell, L Harrington and C Latif.

In attendance: A Mboho (Youth Mayor)

Start/End Time: Start Time: 6.00 p.m.
End Time: 7.00 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillors J Mead and P Stuart.

There were no declaration of interests.

2. MINUTES – 17 JUNE 2013

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2013 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF COMMUNITY TRANSPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE

A revised scoping document was accepted by the Chair.

The Committee welcomed a suggestion from the Head of Leisure, Environmental Health and Children Services to provide an overview on the various aspects of Community Transport which will assist Members focus on what it would want to scrutinise.

The Committee agreed that as part of the review process the Chair, Councillor S Walker and L Bell would undertake a questionnaire survey with the users of the service. Councillors C Latif and M Notley to lead on the service around leisure trips, its costs, affordability and value for money. The Committee identified Councillor J Mead to lead on aspect around finances. The Youth Mayor agreed to explore how the services could be extended to youth activities especially over the weekend.

4. **DISCUSSION ITEM – HCC HEALTH SCRUTINY – FRANCIS REPORT DISTRICT SURVEY**

A briefing note on the Francis report was tabled for Members consideration.

The Strategic Director (Community) provided Members with some background to the report.

He informed Members that the Francis report produced over 290 recommendations.

Of special interest to local authorities was the failure of the bodies set up to express the voices of patients and the local authority scrutiny committees to pick up the problems.

Members were reminded that the council representative, Councillor D Cullen and the Portfolio Holder, Community, Health and Older People Councillor S Batson CC, are kept informed of any undertakings by the HCC Health Scrutiny Committee. Members requested an invitation to be extended to both Members to attend a future meeting to brief the Committee on the work of HCC Health Scrutiny Committee and on current health issues.

Councillor D Cullen's response to questions received from HCC Health Scrutiny Committee in light of the Francis report was circulated and considered by Members. Members' comments would be sent to the HCC regarding their review of the County's Health Scrutiny Committee in the form of a commentary along with Councillors Cullen's response.

Members commented that they would welcome the occasional input from SBC Members on the County Health Scrutiny Committee and also from local NHS representatives regarding local health issues, which could help prevent a local repeat of the mid Staffordshire scandal

In response to a question on the accessibility of minutes of HCC Health scrutiny, the Strategic Director advised that it would be on the HCC website.

A suggestion for circulation of HCC Health and Scrutiny agenda especially when it impinges on Stevenage was noted.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the briefing from the Strategic Director, Community on the Francis report be noted.
2. That both the Portfolio Holder, Community, Health and Older People and SBC representative be invited to attend a meeting of the Committee.
3. That the comments of the Committee be sent to HCC regarding their review into the County's Health Scrutiny Committee.

5. URGENT PART I BUSINESS

None

6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

PART II

7. URGENT PART I BUSINESS

None

Chair