

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY SELECT COMMITTEE****MINUTES****Date: Tuesday 22 March 2016****Time: 6.00 p.m.****Place: Shimkent Room Stevenage**

Present: Councillors M Downing (Chair), M Hurst (Vice-Chair), D Bainbridge, L Briscoe, R Broom, J Brown, J Fraser, J Mead and P Stuart.

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor A McGuinness.

There were no declarations of interests.

2. MINUTES – 12 JANUARY 2016

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Economy Select Committee held on 12 January 2016 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. 2016/2017 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Officer presented the report which detailed Members' suggestions for the Scrutiny Work Programme for the Committee for the Municipal Year 2016/2017.

A revised paragraph 6.2 detailing previous scrutiny reviews was tabled at the meeting.

From the list of options presented at paragraph 5.1 of the report the Committee expressed a preference to undertake reviews covering Neighbourhood Maintenance (inclusive of maintenance of the Public Realm and Cleaning of Underpasses), Allotments and the promotion of publicly available toilets. It was noted that the review into Neighbourhood Maintenance could also cover the interface with County Council services where service boundaries were perceived to be indistinct.

In addition to the scheduled revisit of the review into the maintenance of trees, hedges and shrub beds the Committee wished to revisit the reviews into the Green Travel Plan, actions taken to address the issue of dog fouling and cycle-ways.

The Scrutiny Officer undertook to draft a workplan for the Committee incorporating

the above together with the Policy Development Work identified at paragraph 7.1 in the report.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That Scrutiny Members' feedback on ideas for improving Scrutiny, as detailed in section 4 of the report be noted.
2. That having considered ideas put forward by individual Members as detailed in section 5 of the report the Committee determined that the following topic areas be considered as potential Scrutiny reviews items for 2016/2017:
 - a. Neighbourhood Maintenance (inclusive of maintenance of the Public Realm and cleaning of underpasses)
 - b. Allotments
 - c. Promotion of publicly available toilets.
3. That consideration be given to including in the work programme specific monitoring or review of recommendations from the following previous studies:
 - a. Maintenance of trees, hedges and shrub beds
 - b. Green Travel Plan
 - c. Actions taken to address the issue of dog fouling
 - d. Cycleways
4. That the Policy Development work identified for the Committee, as detailed in section 7.1 of the report, be noted.

4. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS

None.

5. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Not required.

6. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

None.

Chair