

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	Thursday, 13 December 2018	
Place:	Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete	
Members Present:	Councillors:	Lin Martin-Haugh (Chair), Philip Bibby CC (Vice-Chair), Sandra Barr, Jim Brown, Michael Downing, Jody Hanafin, Michelle Gardner, Lizzy Kelly, John Mead, Adam Mitchell CC and Robin Parker CC

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Fraser and S Mead.</p> <p>Councillor M Downing made a declarable interest in Item 5 of the Executive Notice of Decisions (Town Centre Regeneration Update) as Chair of the Bus Users Group.</p> <p>There were no other declarations of interest.</p>	
2	MINUTES - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 14 NOVEMBER 2018	
	It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (sitting as a Select Committee) held on 14 November 2018 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
3	MINUTES - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 26 NOVEMBER 2018	
	It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 28 November are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
4	PART I DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE	
	This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting nor had it been made available for public inspection.	

The Chair determined however that given the short time left before the end of the call-in period on 20 December it be considered on this occasion.

Minutes – Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees

The Committee was advised that the suggested name change for the Neighbourhood Wardens would not take place.

Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Rent Setting and Budget Report 2019/2020

Members asked a number of detailed questions about the report which were answered by the Officer.

In reply to Member comments concerning the level of satisfaction with service charges the Committee was advised that a review of service charges was scheduled to be undertaken in 2019/2020 with a view to implementing any resultant changes in 2020/2021.

In response to a Member request the Assistant Director Finance and Estates undertook to circulate the Government's rationale for putting in place the four year 1% rent reduction.

Town Centre Regeneration Update

Councillor M Downing advised of a declarable interest in this item as the Chair of the Bus Users Group.

Members asked a number of detailed questions about the report, in particular the relocation and funding of the bus station and the options for the Leisure Centre / Theatre, which were answered by Officers.

In reply to a comment concerning commercial use of public space in the Town Centre the Strategic Director (TP) undertook to review the license of the enterprises involved.

Corporate Performance for Quarter Two 2018/2019

In reply to comments concerning levels of staff sickness absences the Committee was reminded that it would continue to undertake a review of Sickness Management at a meeting on 15 January 2019.

Members raised a number of questions about the Customer Service Centre (CSC) which were answered by the Officer.

	<p>In reply to a Member request the Assistant Director Corporate Services and Transformation undertook to review the tabulated telephony data in the report to provide extra clarity.</p> <p>In reply to a comment concerning Member calls to the CSC asking to be put through to a named officer. The Assistant Director Corporate Services and Transformation undertook to investigate the possibility of amending the operators' script to facilitate this request.</p> <p>The Committee was advised that the Council's intranet, which included a staff telephone directory, had recently been relaunched and was available to all Members.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the following Part I decisions of the Executive are noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes – Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees • Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Rent Setting and Budget Report 2019/2020 • Town Centre Regeneration Update • Corporate Performance for Quarter Two 2018/2019 	
5	URGENT PART I DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
	None.	
6	EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS	
	<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That, under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1-7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 20016; and 2. That, having considered the reasons for the following items being in Part II, it be determined that maintaining the exemption from 	

	disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.	
7	PART II MINUTES - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 26 NOVEMBER 2018	
	It was RESOLVED that the Part II Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 November 2018 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
8	PART II DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE	
	<p>This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting. The Chair determined however that given the short time left before the end of the call-in period on 20 December it be considered on this occasion.</p> <p>West of Stevenage Development</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the decision of the Executive to call for a more detailed report on this issue and the subsequent deferral of the decision thereon.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the following Part II decision of the Executive is noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West of Stevenage Development 	
9	URGENT PART II DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
	None.	
10	URGENT PART II BUSINESS	

	None.	