

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 July 2015 at 3.30 pm**

**Present:**

Councillor P H Murphy .....Chairman

Councillor D Archer  
Councillor S Dowding  
Councillor R Woods

Councillor A Behan  
Councillor J Parbrook

**Members in Attendance:**

Councillor M Chilcott  
Councillor R Thomas

Councillor M Dewdney  
Councillor D J Westcott

**Officers in Attendance:**

Assistant Director – Energy Infrastructure (A Goodchild)  
Democratic Services Coordinator (E McGuinness)  
Corporate Strategy and Performance Manager (P Harding)  
Corporate Strategy and Performance Officer (H Stevenson)  
Administrative Support (A Randell)

**SC86 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor R Lillis (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor B Maitland-Walker.

**SC87 Minutes**

(Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 11 June 2015 – circulated with the Agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 11 June 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

**SC88 Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

Name	Minute No.	Description of Interest	Personal or Prejudicial or Disclosable Pecuniary	Action Taken
Cllr P H Murphy	All Items	Watchet	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr D Archer	All Items	Minehead	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr J Parbrook	All Items	Minehead	Personal	Spoke and voted

**SC87**     **Notes of Key Cabinet Decisions/Action Points**

(Copy of Notes of Cabinet Decisions/Action Points, circulated with the agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Key Cabinet Decisions/Action Points from the meeting held on 3 June 2015, be noted.

The Scrutiny Committee were content to note that Councillors Murphy and Lillis would continue to monitor the provision of Secondary education in West Somerset and would bring any matters of interest to the attention of the Committee as appropriate.

**SC88**     **Cabinet Forward Plan**

(Copy of the Cabinet Forward Plan published 3 June 2015, circulated with the agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Forward Plan published on 3 June 2015, be noted.

**SC89**     **Presentation by Tom Maughan – Group Mobilisation Manager – Vocare**

The purpose of the presentation was to respond to a request from members of this Committee for VOCARE to update members about the roll out of new arrangements for GP Out of Hours and NHS 111 provision in West Somerset.

The presentation outlined the background information to the contract along with the services in areas of West Somerset that would be provided with the new out of hour's provision.

Members requested contact details of the following organisations which have subsequently been provided by Vocare:-

**Telephone:**     0300 123 8924

**E-mail:**             [somerset.governance@nhs.net](mailto:somerset.governance@nhs.net)

**Address:**            Somerset Doctors Urgent Care  
Wellington House  
Queen Street  
Taunton  
TA1 3UF

**Website:**            <http://www.somersetduc.nhs.uk/>

**Patient Participation Group Contacts:**

[gphillman@hotmail.com](mailto:gphillman@hotmail.com)

[Christine.Lincoln@somersetccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Christine.Lincoln@somersetccg.nhs.uk)

During the course of discussion the following points were made:-

- The out of hour's provision for Minehead was discussed. It was intended that a GP would provide out of hours service in Minehead alongside a

treatment center in the community hospital. Patients would have the ability to be booked in for treatment in the community center.

- Some doctors working in out of hour's provision were continued from previous providers.
- The script when the 111 line is called was questioned. This was a national response in terms of the referral methods and developed by clinicians. Staff were trained in relation to call responses to ensure the response is appropriate.
- Reassurance was given that when needed, calls were referred to the in hours GP and discussion could be had with nurses out of hours.
- In terms of timescales of the service it was envisaged that the goal would be to have a Doctor based at Minehead. It was requested that emphasis be put on this.
- Complaints and compliments made about the service were considered in detail along with patient participation groups; effective use of the GP's time was encouraged with the whole area being covered including high demand areas.
- The possibility of employing GP's into the area that were currently employed elsewhere was requested by members to be considered. Comfort call procedures were used in instances where patients were waiting for non-emergency responses and in situations where patient situations could deteriorate.
- Councillors were concerned that the amount of compliments were lower than complaints. Reassurance was given that complaints were fully investigated.
- Members commented that the positive news of response times be revealed so that members of the public are aware of the success of the service.
- Work done in the out of hours service was commended along with the presentation to Scrutiny from councillors.
- It was requested that an update report be brought back to the committee in 12 months.

**Resolved that:-**

- (i) The presentation and progress of Vocare out of hours service provision was noted.

**SC90 Corporate Performance Report Quarter 4 Outturn 2014/15**

Considered report, WSC 107/15 previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to provide members with an update on progress in delivering the council's corporate priorities and the performance of council services for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. The report also provided an overview of the outcome of the latest Council satisfaction survey. The performance report monitors and reports on the delivery of the corporate priorities, the associated objectives and actions.

During the course of discussion the following points were made:-

- Discussion took place in relation to the disabled facilities grant (KPI 52)

- Waiting times were effected by a reduced budget. There was a 61 week average with demand outstripping supply in terms of the disabled facilities grant.
- The grant had been reduced from £240,000 to £184,000. This would increase back to £240,000 in the next financial year.
- At present 22 were on the waiting list for adaptations. Adaptations could cost up to £30k. There had been instances where those on the list were waiting a year before the need for adaptations is met.
- It was considered that the 22 week target was unrealistic due to the cut in the budget.
- Members requested to find out if there would be a waiting period after the occupational therapist is consulted.
- Consideration was given in instances where adaptations have been made, such as stair lifts etc. on homes which were then made available to new tenants that had the need for these adaptations.
- It was suggested that there should be a change in targets due to the future increased demand in grants due to the ageing population, in addition accounting for the saving these adaptations had on keeping patients out of hospital beds.
- It was proposed that the Housing Partnership Manager to attend Community PAG to give a more detailed presentation relating to disabled facilities grants, this was supported by the Scrutiny committee.

**Resolved that:-**

- Scrutiny recommend that KPI 52 is amended to reflect the change in resources and the subsequent impact on performance. Scrutiny would support the target being amended from 22 weeks to 40 weeks.
- Scrutiny members ask that the committee is proactively involved in the proposed review of the current performance measures to reflect new and emerging Corporate Plan priorities
- That an item is included on a future community PAG agenda to ask Christian Trevelyan to attend and discuss the matter of Disabled Facilities Grants in more detail.

**SC91 Revenue and Capital Outturn 2014**

Councillor Chilcott reported to the committee that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be considered at the August Scrutiny committee.

**SC92 Hinkley Point C – Section 106 Agreement Community Impact Mitigation Fund**

Considered the report WSC 109/15, previously circulated.

The purpose of the report to the Scrutiny committee was to provide an update on the first 12 months of the operation of the Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund and propose suggested Terms of Reference for a Task and Finish Group on this subject. The aim of the review is to determine whether or not organisations within West Somerset have access to the necessary information,

guidance and support to enable them to make successful applications to the CIM fund.

During the course of discussion the following points were made:-

- The timescales for the CIM applications were discussed; there was a 10 week timescale if the application was over £25,000 and 8 weeks for an application under £25,000
- There had been 121 formal expressions of interest shown. The numbers of telephone calls along with initial enquiries had been monitored, over 300 conversations had been held.
- The work done in relation to the CIM fund was commended by members.
- Applications that were not likely to be successful were informed at an early stage to ensure quality of advice and that time isn't wasted.
- Members considered if all communities were being reached giving them the information of the CIM fund. This would be part of the role of the task and finish group to ensure that all groups that can apply are aware.
- It was accepted that more work could always be done to further push the fund, however taking into account the current position with the Hinkley project it was considered important that the fund is still available for applications when the project starts.
- In some respects delays had been advantageous, including in the formation of the task and finish group. It was important to continue the relationship with the community foundation and Justin Sergeant to continue to shape how £12.8 million would be administered.
- Detailed to members that applications were considered on their validity and merit, in line with the legally agreed assessment criteria not on location.
- Members were in favour of supporting the task and finish group. In the first meeting the scope and terms of reference would be decided. The outcomes of the task and finish group would be drawn up by the end of the year. This would act as a refresh going into the New Year with the outcomes being timetabled for Cabinet in November and Council in December.

**Resolved** that:-

The Scrutiny Committee recommend that a Task and Finish group be set up to further assess whether or not the objectives of the corporate plan are being met.

**SC93**     **Scrutiny Committee Work Plan**

(Copy of the Cabinet Forward Plan published 3 June 2015, circulated with the agenda.)

The Committee agreed to add ambulance service response times and provision to be considered at the committee in September.

The Committee were in agreement to cancel the August meeting if no further items were needed to be added to the agenda.

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Forward Plan published on 3 June 2015, be noted.

The meeting closed at 5.38 pm.