

Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel

13 June 2017

Commenced: 6.00pm

Terminated: 7.15pm

Present: Councillors K Welsh (Chair), Bailey (Deputy Chair), Affleck, Beeley, Bowerman, Feeley, Fowler, A Holland, Homer, Patrick, Pearce, Piddington, Sidebottom, F Travis.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Bowden, Glover, Patrick, Sharif, Whitehead

1. WELCOME AND CHAIRS OPENING REMARKS

In opening the meeting the Chair welcomed all members to the first panel meeting of the municipal year.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Bailey as the panel's newly appointed deputy chair and gave thanks to Cllr Piddington, as the previous deputy chair, for the support and contributions she had made during the previous 12 months.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel held on 14 March 2017 were approved as a correct record.

3. EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO THE REVIEW OF BINSWAP AND DELIVERING FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO RECYCLING

The Panel welcomed Councillor Allison Gwynne, Executive Member (Clean & Green) and Garry Parker, Head of Environmental Services to receive the Executive Response for the review of Bin Swap and Delivering Future Improvements to Recycling.

Cllr Gwynne reported that all recommendations had been accepted and provided the panel with a detailed response to each recommendation. It was reported that significant environmental and financial benefits have been achieved through Bin Swap, which has brought about a positive approach to change and the Council's ability to design and delivery improvements. A recent review of bin collection frequency has resulted in a new two weekly collection for Blue Bins across the borough, aimed to notably increase household recycling capacity.

Mr Parker informed members that it is imperative that the Council pushes past Bin Swap and that work will be ongoing to identify all possible ways to improve capture rates and overall recycling. The service is looking to maximise the amount of information and data it receives from collection crews and a recent investment in technology has resulted in all vehicles being fitted with a tablet to record and relay vital and real time data. Plans are also afoot to further develop and improve the Tameside Bin App, with the way residents receive messages and to importantly allow feedback and issues to be communicated directly to the service.

Panel members asked about the challenges faced by the service and the commitment to target and support some of Tameside's lowest performing areas.

Mr Parker informed members that work will be undertaken to improve the way that contamination is identified, recorded, communicated back to residents and used to inform enforcement plans. The new technology will see the start of this with live data available to inform current and future strategies. Further work will also be undertaken to identify all factors that create barriers to recycling, including ongoing education, property type and targeted interventions.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Gwynne and Mr Parker be thanked for attending the meeting.

4. PEOPLE AND PLACE SCORECARD

Panel members received an update on sections of the People and Place Scorecard performance report that are relevant to this scrutiny panel.

5. ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

The Panel discussed a range of potential review topics to be added to the Annual Work Programme 2017/18. It was agreed that a review topic will be added looking specifically at Business Growth in Tameside.

The Chair advised members that the current Community Safety review has been carried forward to 2017/18 and it was agreed that the review will continue over the coming months until completion. The Business Growth review will commence as soon as the current review is finalised.

In order for the Annual Work Programme to be presented at Overview (Audit) Panel on 31 July 2017 it was agreed that the final work programme document will be shared outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Work Programme be circulated to members outside of the meeting.

6. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP

The Chair invited Panel members to express an interest in joining the new working group for the Business Growth review and initial interest was noted.

RESOLVED: Details of the next working group meeting for the Community Safety review to be circulated by email.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 1 August 2017

8. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR