

SCRUTINY BOARD (STRATEGY AND RESOURCES)

MONDAY, 22ND MAY, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor K Groves in the Chair

Councillors S Bentley, M Harland,
P Harrand, H Hayden, J McKenna,
S McKenna, A Sobel, E Tunnicliffe,
T Wilford and R Wood

93 Late Items

There were no late items; however there was some supplementary financial health monitoring information submitted in relation to agenda item 8 – Additional Workforce and Financial Information (minute 98 refers).

The supplementary information had been provided to all members of the Scrutiny Board and published on the Council's website.

94 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

95 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr D Nagle; with Cllr M Harland attending as a substitute member.

96 Minutes - 24 April 2017

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2017 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising discussed at the meeting.

97 Commissioning - draft scrutiny inquiry report

The Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support submitted a report that introduced the Scrutiny Board's draft inquiry report and recommendations in relation to 'Commissioning'.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Cllr James Lewis – Executive Board member for Strategy and Resources
- Cath Roff – Director of Adults and Health
- Mick Ward – Interim Deputy Director, Integrated Commissioning, Adults and Health

The Chair introduced the draft report and recommendations as the culmination of the Boards work over the previous 18-months, and invited the Executive Board member and Director for any specific advice and/or comments.

In response, the Executive Board member:

- Welcomed the Board's draft report, stating it was a useful piece of work and the Scrutiny Board had continually presented a useful 'value for money' challenge in respect of the Council's commissioning of 'people services'.
- Highlighted that, although a number of draft recommendations were directed at the Director of Adults and Health, it would be useful to clarify this was in the capacity as the 'corporate lead officer' for commissioning, and not specifically related to the role as Director.
- Outlined that, subject to the Scrutiny Board's final agreement of the draft report and recommendations, a cross-departmental / Executive Board response would follow.

The Director of Adults and Health responded by confirming the advice included in the cover report presented to the Board and outlined an initial verbal response to the draft recommendations.

The Chair thanked the Executive Board member and Director for their comments, and invited Scrutiny Board members for any further comments or suggested amendments to the draft inquiry report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) To note the comments and observations made at the meeting.
- (b) To agree the draft report and recommendations as presented, subject to any minor amendments and/or corrections that may be required.

98 Additional workforce and financial information

The Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support submitted a report that introduced additional workforce and financial information identified at the previous Board meeting on 24 April 2017.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Cllr James Lewis – Executive Board member for Strategy and Resources
- Alex Watson – Head of Human Resources
- Richard Ellis – Head of Finance (Corporate)

The Board confirmed that the additional financial information would be better discussed once the final financial outturn data for 2016/17 had been confirmed.

The Board subsequently considered the following additional workforce information:

- The Council's expenditure on overtime payments for 2014/15, 1015/16 and 2016/17.
- Redundancy in schools
- Employee Engagement results (staff survey) for 2016.

In respect of the 'redundancy in schools' information, it was confirmed the data did not include any redundancies from Academies and/or Free Schools based in Leeds. The Board agreed to refer the matter to the Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) for consideration.

RESOLVED –

- (c) To note the additional information provided.
- (d) That further consideration be given to the additional financial information, once the final financial outturn data for 2016/17 had been confirmed.
- (e) That, in respect of the 'redundancy in schools' information, the matter be referred to the Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) for consideration.

99 Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was noted that future meeting dates would be determined in the new municipal year.

At the end of the meeting, the Chair thanked all Board members for their work and contributions throughout the year. Board members acknowledged the Chair's remarks and thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

The meeting closed at 10:35am.