

SCRUTINY BOARD (SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND CULTURE)

THURSDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor M Rafique in the Chair

Councillors J Akhtar, D Cohen, M Lyons,
P Wadsworth, R Harington, M Ingham,
J McKenna, B Urry and J Chapman

33 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

34 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

35 Late Items

A late item was admitted to the agenda, 'Agenda Item 12 – Marketing Leeds'. The Chair agreed at the meeting that this item be heard first, minute 39 refers.

Supplementary information was also circulated at the meeting with regards to Agenda Item 9 'Bus Services in Leeds – Draft Terms of Reference', minute 42 refers.

36 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

Cllr Urry declared a significant other interest in Agenda item 8 'Scrutiny Board Inquiry Session 4 – Inquiry into the impact into Existing Major Sources of Travel Movements Within the City, and the Plans being made to Address the Impact of Known Future Developments on the City's Transport Infrastructure' and Agenda Item 9 'Bus Services in Leeds – draft term of Reference' as a member of the Leeds Passenger Consultative Committee.

37 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies were received for Councillor J Marjoram.

38 Minutes - 12th July 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2012 were approved as a correct record. Also the minutes of the Call In meeting held on 12th July 2012 were approved as a correct record.

39 LATE ITEM - Marketing Leeds

The Chief Executive of Marketing Leeds, Lurene Joseph, made an introductory presentation to the Board, she outlined the approach she planned to take for the marketing and promotion of the City.

Martin Farrington, Director of City Development was also in attendance to help answer any questions that Members had.

Members discussed how best Leeds could be marketed and highlighted the strengths of the City. They also expressed great interest in how the City Council could help support Marketing Leeds in its objectives and ensure that successful outcomes are achieved.

Members also asked the Chief Executive of Marketing Leeds the areas she considered that the Board should focus on for the forthcoming inquiry into the marketing and promotion of the City.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report and presentation be noted; and
- (b) that a working group be set up to draft the terms of reference for the inquiry.

40 Scrutiny Board Inquiry Session 4 - Inquiry into the impact of existing major sources of travel movements within the City, and the plans being made to address the impact of known future developments on the City's transport infrastructure

The Acting Head of Transport Policy, Andrew Hall, presented a report of the Director of City Development. The report provided the Board with an update on the Leeds New Generation Transport project.

Also present were:

Andrew Wheeler - NGT Project Manager;
Dave Haskins – Assistant Director, Rapid Transit at West Yorkshire Metro.
Sandra Newbould – Principal Scrutiny Advisor.

Members questioned officers present about the consultation that had previously taken place with regards to the NGT project before it was put on hold by Central Government and what consultation would be done now that the business case had been approved by Central Government.

Members also gave consideration to the proposed route for NGT and whether further lines would be added in the future which would improve access to different parts of the City and whether the scheme would be built within the budget allocated.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that a draft report and recommendations from the Board’s inquiry be produced.

41 2012/13 Quarter 1 Performance Report

The Head of Strategic Planning, Policy and Performance presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) and the Director of City Development. The report presented the Board with a summary of the quarter one performance data for 2012/13 which provided an update on progress on delivering the relevant priorities in the Council Business Plan 2011-15 and City Priority Plan 2011-15.

Also in attendance was Fiona McAnespie, Deputy Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement.

Members questioned officers present as to why unemployment in Leeds appeared high in comparison with other areas and the impact of this for the wider city region. It was noted that the Leeds unemployment rate was actually the second lowest among core cities.

Members also asked questions about the number of red indicators and the progress being made to improve performance in these areas.

Members asked officers present about the policies regarding reducing energy consumption and stressed the need to continue to try to reduce consumption as well as reducing the number of buildings occupied.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report.

42 Bus Services in Leeds - Draft Terms of Reference

The Principal Scrutiny Advisor presented a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which asked Members to comment on and agree the terms of reference for the inquiry.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Board provide comments by 28th September 2012 and that the Chair be authorised to finalise them following any comments received.

43 Work Schedule

The Board received a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which considered the Board’s work schedule for the forthcoming municipal year.

RESOLVED – That the work schedule be noted.

44 Date and time of next meeting

10am, 18th October 2012.

Final minutes approved as a correct record at the meeting
held on Thursday, 18th October, 2012