

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Wednesday 11 December 2013 at 4.30 pm

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone
Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Trevor Bagshaw, Alison Brelsford, Jayne Dunn, Terry Fox, Keith Hill, Ibrar Hussain, Steve Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Alf Meade, Tim Rippon and Steve Wilson

Substitute Members

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of service performance and other issues in respect of the area of Council activity relating to planning and economic development, wider environmental issues, culture, leisure, skills and training, and the quality of life in the City.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday, or you can ring on telephone no. 2734552. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Matthew Borland, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email matthew.borland@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:email.matthew.borland@sheffield.gov.uk)

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING SCRUTINY AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA
11 DECEMBER 2013**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 1 - 4)
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meetings** (Pages 5 - 18)
To approve the minutes of (a) the special meeting of the Committee held on 4th October, 2013 and (b) the meeting of the Committee held on 9th October, 2013
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Cycling Inquiry Oral Evidence**
Culture and Behaviour
 - (a) Institute of Advanced Motorists – Robert Baybutt
 - (b) Sustrans – David Hall, Regional Director
 - (c) Sheffield Cycling Perspective

Integration

 - (a) South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive – Roy Mitchell, Principal Public Transport Manager
 - (b) Stagecoach Yorkshire – Paul Lynch, Managing Director
 - (c) Stagecoach Supertram
 - (d) Northern Rail Cycle Forum – Simon Geller

Broadening Participation

 - (a) Heeley Development Trust – Andrew Jackson, Manager
 - (b) Young Peoples' Perspective

8. **Work Programme 2013/14**
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer

(Pages 19 - 20)

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 12th February, 2014, at 4.30 pm, in the Town Hall

ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

New standards arrangements were introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The new regime made changes to the way that members' interests are registered and declared.

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.
- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) -
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in

land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or

- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously, and has been published on the Council's website as a downloadable document at -<http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests>

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Lynne Bird, Director of Legal Services on 0114 2734018 or email lynne.bird@sheffield.gov.uk

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**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development
Committee**

Special Meeting held 4 October 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Trevor Bagshaw, Terry Fox, Steve Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Tim Rippon, Steve Wilson, Pat Midgley (Substitute Member) and Diana Stimely (Substitute Member)

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received and substitutes attended the meeting as follows:-

<u>Apology</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
Councillor Jayne Dunn	Councillor Pat Midgley
Councillor Keith Hill	Councillor Diana Stimely
Councillor Ibrar Hussain	No substitute nominated

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

4.1 The following questions were raised by members of the public and the Chair requested that responses be provided during the consideration of item 5:-

- (a) Is the Council aware that the sale of any property within the Graves Park Charity, including Cobnar Cottage, is specifically excluded by the covenants in the case of J. G. Graves' gift?
- (b) Why have the Council not consulted with the Friends of Graves Park regarding the sale of Cobnar Cottage, or invited the Friends Group to go and view the Cottage, if it is seriously interested in the Group's opinion, and in working collaboratively with the Friends Group?
- (c) Why has Cobnar Cottage been allowed to deteriorate and not been maintained for at least six years since being vacated by the last tenant when it should have been maintained as an asset and re-let, thus accruing income for the Graves Park Charity?

5. THE GRAVES PARK CHARITABLE TRUST - COBNAR ROAD COTTAGE

- 5.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Place, which had been submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet held on 17th July, 2013, containing proposals regarding the declaration of Cobnar Cottage, Graves Park, surplus to the Graves Park Charity's requirements and the freehold disposal of the Cottage on the open market. The full decision of the Cabinet, sitting in their capacity as Trustees of the Graves Park Charitable Trust, which included approving the declaration and subsequent disposal of the Cottage, was appended to the report.
- 5.2 Prior to consideration of the report, the Chair stated that although the decision had been called-in for scrutiny, under the call-in process for Executive decisions, as the decision had been made by the Cabinet, sitting as Trustees of the Graves Park Charitable Trust, it did not fall within the call-in process for Executive decisions. However, in the spirit of transparency, the Committee had been invited to examine the report and the decisions made by the Cabinet on this matter, and any comments or recommendations made by the Committee would be reported to the Cabinet. The Chair also reminded Members of the Committee that Appendix 2 to the report contained confidential information and that discussion on the contents of the appendix would need to be taken in closed session, with the public and press being excluded.
- 5.3 Councillor Isobel Bowler, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure, stated that the Council took its responsibilities with regard to the City's parks very seriously and that the Cabinet, in its role as Trustees of the Graves Park Charitable Trust, had sought advice, including legal advice, from Council officers, and the decision of the Cabinet had been taken in the best interests of the objectives of the Charitable Trust. Councillor Bowler stated that the Council valued Friends Groups, and stressed that although there was no obligation on the Council to directly consult with such Groups on disposals or other matters, she offered her sincere apologies, on behalf of the Council, for not consulting with the Friends of Graves Park prior to the Cabinet decision to commence the Public Notice and wider consultation being taken. She added that the Council would normally consult a Friends Group on large disposals affecting a park, but as the proposed disposal only involved a relatively small capital sum, and as the Charity Commission process required a consultation, the Council did not consider it necessary, in this case, to consult in advance of the Trustee's decision to begin the process for disposal.
- 5.4 David Cooper, Head of Policy and Projects, Culture and Environment, Place, referred to the report, highlighting the history of the Cottage and the reasoning behind the recent decision to dispose of the Cottage on the open market. He reported on the legal, property and charity implications of the decision, referring specifically to the requirement of the Council, following the decision, to publicly advertise the proposal and commence the due process of Public Notice and consultation.
- 5.5 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The decision to sell the freehold was based on the advice contained in the Surveyor's report. The financial valuation/estimate contained within the report was only indicative, and the housing market would determine the true value whenever the property was sold. It was accepted that selling the freehold was not the only option and that reverting to a leasehold disposal may be an alternative. However, ultimately, it was a matter for the Director of Capital and Major Projects to determine the best marketing strategy for the property to benefit the Charity, as set out in paragraph (c) of the resolution of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 17th July, 2013.
- Park Lodges, such as Cobnar Cottage, have traditionally been offered at subsidised rent to workers in return for duties carried out in the parks. The exact cost benefit analysis of this arrangement and therefore, any savings/true costs, are however, difficult to fully quantify. Since this property was first acquired in 1925, modes of working have changed significantly over time. Cobnar Cottage was no longer needed to house the Park's estate workers. Consequently, the dwellinghouse no longer directly benefits the Charity on which it is being held and is now becoming a drain on the Charity's limited resources.
- On the query that capital spend arising from a disposal could incur future revenue costs, the capital spend would be subject to a future decision of the Trustees, and options for capital investment that would give a revenue return would also be considered.
- The Council, acting as Trustees, needed to look at what was the best practical solution in terms of the future of the building. The property had been vacant for a number of years and was now in need of investment for a full refurbishment and repair in order to make it habitable. The proposed disposal would remove a liability and allow a property, which was currently in need of fresh investment, to be refurbished and brought back into use, and therefore, this had been viewed as the most practical and feasible solution.
- The proceeds from the sale of the Cottage would be reinvested by the Council, as Trustees of the Charity, in Graves Park, in accordance with the objects of the Charity. There were no firm plans in terms of how the proceeds would be reinvested at the present time. The Friends of Graves Park and other users of the Park would be consulted on how they would like to see the proceeds reinvested.
- The property had originally been acquired and maintained by the Charity Trust as a Worker's Cottage. On the basis that there was no available capital funding in terms of its refurbishment, or little likelihood of it being let to a Graves Park site worker in the foreseeable future, then selling the property was viewed as the most feasible option. There was always the possibility that other options in terms of the future of the Cottage could be raised as part of the consultation process, which would need to be considered. The 28 day Public Notice required to commence and formally invite wider public feedback has currently been suspended due to the

Trustees decision being considered by this Scrutiny Committee.

- Prior to making the decision, the Cabinet had received clear legal advice on their roles as Council Members and Trustees of the Charity, and all Members were aware of the role in which they were acting.
- It was accepted that there had been challenges in terms of the maintenance of the Cottage in recent years, but there had not been a case of wilful neglect. Enquiries would be made to see if an insurance claim for compensation could be made in terms of any damage caused to the property.
- As the Cottage was no longer required to provide living accommodation for workers who maintain Graves Park, it has not been considered appropriate to borrow money to upgrade the property for this purpose.
- The Cabinet Member had been advised of the ability to apply to the Charity Commission for an order in terms of the amendment of the covenants but, based on all the advice received, the Cabinet, acting as Trustees, had viewed the decision to dispose of the property as the best option in the interests of the Charity at this time. It was also acknowledged that all the advice provided was in accordance with the guidelines for potential disposal of charitably held assets, as contained within the Charities Act 2011.
- It was accepted that, in hindsight, it would have been helpful to consult with the Friends of Graves Park prior to the Cabinet decision on 17th July, 2013, but the Council would now seek the views of the Group, as well as other users of the Park, on what they would like to see in terms of reinvestment back into the Park.

5.6 RESOVLED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes (i) the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made and responses provided to the questions raised and (ii) that it does not have the authority to refer back the decision of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 17th July, 2013; and
- (b) acknowledges some weaknesses now reported in terms of the lack of prior, earlier consultation with the Friends of Graves Park and, in the light of this, (i) offers its apologies to the Friends Group and (ii) requests that officers enter into dialogue with the Friends Group, as well as other users of the Park, to (A) have an on-going dialogue, (B) consider how the proceeds of the sale could be reinvested back into Graves Park and (C) look at any other viable options proposed in terms of the future use of the Cottage.

(NOTE: Prior to the passing of the above resolution, an alternative resolution was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland and seconded by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, as follows:-

“That this Committee requests the Cabinet, as Trustees, to withdraw the decision

made at its meeting held on 17th July, 2013, in relation to Cobnar Cottage, and reconsiders the matter following consultation with interested parties, particularly the Friends of Graves Park and, after consideration of the matters raised at this meeting”.

The votes on the alternative resolution were ordered to be recorded and were as follows:-

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| For the resolution (3) | - | Councillors Ian Auckland, Trevor Bagshaw and Diana Stimely |
| Against the resolution (6) | - | Councillors Terry Fox, Steve Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Pat Midgley, Tim Rippon and Steve Wilson). |
| Abstained (1) | - | Councillor Cate McDonald |

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 6.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 9th October, 2013, at 4.30 p.m., in the Town Hall.

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SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development
Committee**

Meeting held 9 October 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Trevor Bagshaw, Alison Brelsford, Jayne Dunn, Terry Fox, Ibrar Hussain, Steve Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Alf Meade, Tim Rippon, Steve Wilson and Keith Hill (Substitute Member)

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 No apologies for absence were received.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th September, 2013, were approved as a correct record and, arising therefrom, it was reported that, in connection with the Inquiry on Cycling in Sheffield (a) 190 responses had been received as part of the Call for Evidence, and the deadline in respect of the consultation process had been extended to 18th October, 2013 and (b) the Cycle Action Plan 2006/11, together with the details of outcomes against targets in the Plan, would be circulated to Members of the Committee when the outcomes work had been completed.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

5.1 There were no questions raised or petitions submitted by members of the public.

6. THE FUTURE OF SHEFFIELD'S LIBRARY SERVICE

6.1 The Committee considered a joint report of the Head of Community Services and Acting Head of Libraries, Archives and Information, on the future of Sheffield's Library Service. The report contained a summary of the findings of a review of the Libraries, Archives and Information Service, together with details of the next stage of the process, which would comprise a 12 week consultation period, seeking views of the proposals for the future of the Service.

6.2 The Chair reported on the reasons as to why the report had been submitted to this

Committee, indicating that it was important that Members had the opportunity of providing their views on the proposals set out in the report, as well as being able to seek assurances that the Council had consulted widely on, and followed all the correct procedures regarding, the proposals.

- 6.3 Councillor Mazher Iqbal, Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion, reported on the background as to why the Council had undertaken a review of the future of the City's Library Service, together with details of the work undertaken to date. He reported that a City-wide consultation exercise had taken place between August and October 2012, which invited both library and non-library users to provide their views and opinions on the review, with 6,037 people having responded. Following an analysis of the responses, it had become apparent that a number of groups and individuals had offered to support the running of library services and that following the issue of a prospectus, inviting further ideas and suggestions and offers of support, 27 registrations of interest had been received. Following the consultation process, and in the light of the registrations of interest received, an outline strategy, comprising a number of different models on the future delivery of the Service, had been developed. Councillor Iqbal also referred briefly to the recent Government cuts, which had forced the Council to undertake such a review.
- 6.4 Also in attendance for this item were Andrew Milroy, Acting Head of Libraries, Archives and Information, Phil Reid, Development Manager, Business Strategy, Lynne Richardson, Project Manager and Dawn Shaw, Head of Community Services Projects, Communities.
- 6.5 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-
- As detailed in the Needs Assessment, the Council had looked in detail at all the different aspects regarding accessibility to a library service in the City. It was considered that the current proposals provided such accessibility, including for those residents living in rural areas and/or those without internet access. Whilst appreciating the concerns regarding the move to more IT based library services, there were a number of other organisations that provided IT facilities for those without such facilities in their homes. The Council had recently been to look at a Digital Inclusion Project in Liverpool, and was looking at the possibility of implementing a similar project in the City.
 - The Home Library Service offered an important service for people who were unable to visit a library and did not have any help to do so, and would be available for people who need to live independently. The Service would also be offered to any current users of the Mobile Service who were restricted to their home and, who could not access their local library. As part of the review, it was the aim to develop this Service through a volunteer scheme in addition to existing paid staff.
 - The consultation undertaken had been viewed as being very worthwhile and effective, with over 6,000 people completing the consultation survey. The consultation had targeted hard to reach communities and a number of focus

groups and meetings had been organised as part of the process. It had therefore been considered that the public's views had been taken into consideration when proposing the new structure in terms of the future Service.

- As part of the review, consideration had been given to judgments made in respect of Brent and the Wirral Councils, with regard to decisions made in connection with the future of their library services. It was also believed that the indicators listed in the Needs Assessment, relating to the determination of priorities for comprehensive and efficient community libraries, represented good practice.
- The 11 libraries identified as hub libraries in the proposals had been identified following a detailed Needs Assessment. The five potential community libraries had been identified using indicators of multiple deprivation, in line with the recommendations of the Fairness Commission.
- In April 2013, 27 groups/organisations had expressed an interest in offering to support the running of library services. As part of the current proposals, these and other organisations would be requested to submit a viable and sustainable Business Plan. The Council would arrange workshops in order to help the organisations put together their Business Plans, and they would be provided with all the relevant information required in connection with running a library service.
- All residents in the City, including the BME, and other hard to reach communities, had been given the opportunity to take part in the initial consultation exercise.
- In terms of the community libraries, the volunteer groups/organisations would receive funding in respect of rent, utility costs and building maintenance costs, for a period of two years.
- It was planned to provide wi-fi in the Central Library and the main hub libraries.
- It was believed that, in light of the excellent work undertaken by officers in terms of the review, the robustness of the Needs Assessment and based on the advice following the judgments made in Brent and the Wirral, the Council would continue to provide an efficient and comprehensive library service, in line with its statutory duty under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964. The Council had drawn strongly from the outcome of the two judgments and adopted an evidence-based approach in terms of the future operation of its Library Service.
- In terms of the plans regarding the five community libraries, an event had been held for those 27 groups/organisations who had expressed an interest and the Cabinet Member and Council officers had visited a number of groups to discuss their plans.

- In terms of having a reasonable spread of provision across the City, as part of the review, the bus and tram companies had been requested to assist with the process, by providing information in terms of bus and tram routes and times, based roughly on a travel time of 30 minutes.
- As part of the review process, Members and officers had visited six different local authorities to see how they had implemented new ways of working in terms of their library services. Investigations had also been made of other local authorities who had co-funded libraries.

6.6 The following comments were also made by Members of the Committee:-

- Consideration should be given, as part of the review, to having 27 hub libraries,
- It is important that Sheffield residents are clear that the recent Government cuts had forced the Council to undertake the review. It is very important that the Council meets its statutory requirements in terms of the provision of a comprehensive and efficient library service and, following the excellent work undertaken by officers, for which they should be commended, the Council believes that this will be the case. It is also considered that having two libraries in each Constituency was a reasonable spread.
- There was insufficient information in the report relating to future proposals regarding the transfer of Archives and Local Studies. Consideration needed to be given to the future of the Archives Service.

6.7 RESOLVED: That this Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made and responses to the questions raised;
- (b) welcomes the review into the future of Sheffield's Library Service and is confident that the approach taken in terms of the review, particularly the range of models formulated following the initial period of consultation and the detailed Needs Assessment undertaken, would result in the Council being able to provide an efficient and comprehensive Library Service; and
- (c) requests (i) the Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion, working with Council officers, to continue look at the different models and planned consultation is undertaken, which is as thorough as possible, in respect of the proposed models, (ii) that the Acting Head of Libraries, Archives and Information reports to a future Committee meeting on the results of the next phase of the consultation process and (iii) that its thanks and appreciation be conveyed to the Cabinet Member and all Council officers involved in the review for the excellent work undertaken in very difficult circumstances.

NOTE: Prior to the passing of the above resolution, an alternative resolution was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland and seconded by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, as

follows:-

“That this Committee does not agree that the proposals in the report now submitted are the most appropriate way forward for Sheffield’s Library Service”.

Votes on the alternative resolution were ordered to be recorded and were as follows:-

For the resolution (4) - Councillors Ian Auckland, Trevor Bagshaw, Alison Brelsford and Keith Hill.

Against the resolution (9) - Councillors Jayne Dunn, Terry Fox, Ibrar Hussain, Steve Jones, Cate McDonald, Alf Meade, George Lindars-Hammond, Tim Rippon and Steve Wilson).

Abstained (0)

7. SHEFFIELD FOOD STRATEGY

7.1 The Committee noted information, in the form of a presentation, on progress made towards refreshing the current Sheffield Food Plan, and containing details of the new Sheffield Food Strategy.

7.2 Councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene, reported on the need to refresh the Sheffield Food Plan, referring to the varying levels of food poverty across the City and the need to assist those people living in areas where there were high levels of food poverty, by offering help and advice on all aspects of food. Councillor Scott made specific reference to the high number of visits made to food banks across the City, with the highest being in the “S3.7” area. He reported on the reasons why people in some areas were lower down the food hierarchy than others, which included consequences of welfare reform, increases in food prices and lack of food skills, and stated that the aim of the Strategy was to educate such people in order that they could improve their eating habits.

7.3 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The Council was aware that in some areas of the City, there was a higher concentration of takeaways, which had a negative impact as the food was often more expensive and not always healthy. The Council was looking at how steps could be taken to limit the number of takeaways to ensure that there was not a heavy concentration in any specific area. The aim of the Strategy would be to reduce the demand for such take-aways by helping people to choose healthier alternatives.
- Food waste was an important part of the Strategy and biomass had a role to play.

- The Council offered support to local businesses and traders in connection with assisting them in providing healthier options in terms of food. It was accepted, however, that the food they provided was often more expensive than what could be brought in supermarkets, which was a problem for some people.
- It was acknowledged that there was a need to educate people from a young age, particularly those families on lower incomes, and young mothers, in terms of cooking their own meals using fresh ingredients, and making healthy choices in terms of the food they eat.
- Efforts to tackle problems of food waste, which was viewed as a major issue in the City, as highlighted in the presentation, would be dealt with as part of the new Strategy. The Council would look at its waste management contract with Veolia in order to look at what improvements could be made in terms of food waste disposal.
- In terms funding in connection with delivering the Strategy, it was hoped that the Council would be able to use resources from the Council's Fairness Commission Fund to kickstart the Strategy.
- It was accepted that there was a need for improvement in the quality of cookery classes in schools.

7.4 RESOLVED: That this Committee:-

- (a) notes the information set out in the presentation, together with the additional information reported by Councillor Jack Scott, and the responses to the questions raised;
- (b) expresses its thanks to Councillor Jack Scott and Jill Lancaster and Dawn Lockley, Place Public Health Team, for attending the meeting;
- (c) agrees to include the new Sheffield Food Strategy on its Work Plan for 2013/14; and
- (d) requests Members of the Committee to forward any further examples of good practice, which could inform the Food Strategy, to Councillor Jack Scott or Jill Lancaster.

8. WORK PLANNING 2013/14

8.1 The Policy and Improvement Officer submitted the Work Plan for the Committee for 2013/14, containing details of topics to be discussed at future meetings of the Committee.

8.2 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes and agrees the Work Plan 2013/14 now submitted; and

- (b) in the light of the comments raised by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw requests that arrangements be made for Members of the Committee to receive a presentation on the progress being made in respect of the Streets Ahead Project at the earliest possible opportunity, but not at a formal meeting.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 11th December, 2013, at 4.30 p.m., in the Town Hall.

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Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee 11th December 2013

Report of: Matthew Borland, Policy and Improvement Officer
Tel: 2735065
Email: matthew.borland@sheffield.gov.uk

Subject: Work Programme 2013/14

Summary:

This report provides the Work Programme for the Committee for the remainder of the 2013/14 municipal year.

Recommendations:

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

1. Comment on the work programme
2. Agree the work programme

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: OPEN

Work Programme

1. Work Programme

1.1. The work programme is based on the Committee's previous discussions and discussions with the Chair of the Committee:

Meeting	Item	Brief Summary
12th February 2014	City Centre Vibrancy	A walkabout to be set up in advance that can then inform a discussion at the February meeting. To include scrutiny of relevant performance information.
	Cycling Inquiry - Sign Off Report	To sign off the report on the Cycling Inquiry. Committee members will have the chance to comment on drafts before it is brought to the Committee for approval.
	Work Programme	To comment on and agree the work programme
9th April 2014	Streets Ahead	The July meeting of the Committee requested an update on progress on Streets Ahead. This item could take more of a performance management approach.
	Second Item tbc	
	Work Programme	To comment on and agree the work programme

1.2. There are three further items which are in the pipeline, including some where officers need to report back with updates: Climate Change Adaptation; Rural Broadband; and Modernisation of Cabinet Highways Committee. It is not anticipated all updates will require a major discussion at Scrutiny.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- 1) Comment on the work programme
- 2) Agree the work programme