

EXECUTIVE

Tuesday 14 March 2017

Present:

Councillor Sutton (Chair)
Councillors Bialyk, Denham, Hannaford, Leadbetter, Morse, Owen, Pearson and Sutton

Apologies:

Councillor Edwards

Also present:

Chief Executive & Growth Director, Deputy Chief Executive, Assistant Director Customer Access, Director of Communications and Marketing, Corporate Manager Policy, Communications and Community Engagement, Economy and Enterprise Manager and Democratic Services Manager (Committees)

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CHAIR

In the absence of the Leader, the Deputy Leader, Councillor Sutton, took the Chair.

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MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 10 January, 17 January, and 14 February 2017 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest were made.

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DEVOLUTION - JOINT COMMITTEE

The report of the Corporate Manager Policy, Communications and Community Engagement updating Members on progress with devolution, including preparation of a Productivity Plan was submitted. The report also sought an in principle agreement to the creation of a Heart of the South West (HotsW) Joint Committee.

Members were advised that this Council had reservations with regards to the proposals for identifying and developing proposals in response to policy opportunities and for rationalising/improving existing public sector governance and this was reflected in the recommendations to Council.

In response to a Member's question, the Chief Executive & Growth Director clarified that the City Council had already agreed its approach to devolution.

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) note the content of the 'Heart of the South West Devolution Update' report and progress on the preparation of, and consultation on, a HoTSW Productivity Plan;
- (2) endorse the Leader's current approach to devolution and agree in principle to the establishment of a HoTSW Joint Committee;
- (3) agree that this in principle decision is subject to the proposed functions of the Joint Committee being limited to:
 - i. Developing, owning and implementing the HotSW Productivity Plan in collaboration with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).
 - ii. Developing and making recommendations to the constituent authorities/partner agencies for actions emerging from the work of the Brexit Opportunities and Resilience Task Group
 - iii. Continuing discussions/negotiations with the Government/relevant agencies to secure delivery of the Government's strategic infrastructure commitments, eg, strategic road and rail transport improvements
 - iv. Working with the LEP to identify and deliver improvements to the LEP's democratic accountability and to assist the organisation to comply with the revised (November 2016) LEP Assurance Framework. This includes formally endorsing the LEP's assurance framework on behalf of the constituent authorities as and when required and before it is formally approved by the LEP's Administering Authority.
 - v. Ensuring that adequate resources (including staff and funding) are allocated by HotSW partners to support the Joint Committee's agreed programme of work; and
- (4) notes that this in principle agreement does not commit the Council to becoming a member of a HoTSW Joint Committee and that a further report will be submitted to Executive after the County Council elections in May 2017.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COUNCIL TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT

The Chair of the Task and Finish Group, Councillor Robson, presented the report of the Task and Finish Group, which had met on four occasions, setting out its findings and recommendations to the People Scrutiny Committee and Executive.

The Group had included representatives from Exeter Dementia Action Alliance, the Alzheimer's Society and the Community Participation Officer from John Lewis. A valuable insight had been provided by members of the Torbay Dementia Leadership Group who had visited the Customer Service Centre to observe the front line service and facilities from the point of view of a person with dementia. The Torbay Dementia Leadership Group would share this report and details of the recommendations with the Local Clinical Commissioning Group, the emerging Dementia Action Alliance in Teignbridge and Newton Abbot and, at a national level, with the Alzheimer's Society Central Office.

Councillor Robson advised that, should an additional budget be required in respect of the recommendations to investigate a second toilet/improvements to the existing toilet including clearer signage in the Customer Service Centre, then a further report would be brought back to Members.

Members welcomed the work of the Task and Finish Group and supported dementia friendly staff training being rolled out to all customer facing staff including housing and cleansing. They noted that the measures being put in place would assist others with disabilities and asked that this report be taken to the Exeter Health & Wellbeing Board.

The Portfolio Holder for Economy proposed that Exeter BID and Exeter Cultural Partnership should be also encouraged to adopt a dementia friendly approach and they should be added to recommendation 14. This was agreed by Members.

People Scrutiny Committee considered the report at its meeting on 2 March 2017 and its comments were reported.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) organisations such as the Alzheimer's Society, memory cafes and Age Concern be encouraged to apply for allotments for use by those with dementia;
- (2) the work of this Task and Finish Group in a press and social media release be outlined, highlighting that the Council can offer appointments later in the day, upon request;
- (3) what information sharing there is already between Council departments in respect of vulnerable individuals, such as those with dementia and investigate the process for recording and sharing new information be established;
- (4) support for dementia friendly staff training across the Council, encouraging staff to become Dementia Champions be continued;
- (5) to look into providing different modules of more in depth training for officers who work directly with members of the public;
- (6) dementia training as a compulsory requirement before a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's licence is granted be explored;
- (7) dementia friendly engagement is reflected and considered in the social inclusivity dimension of evaluating procurements;
- (8) trained front line staff be required to wear dementia friendly badges and a forge-me-not sign to be placed in a prominent place in the Customer Service Centre;
- (9) the viability of providing a second toilet and/or carry out improvements to the existing toilet (including access) in the Customer Service Centre, subject to costings and available resources be investigated;
- (10) clear signposting for the toilet in the Customer Service Centre, subject to costings and available resources be provided;
- (11) a higher level of dementia awareness training for security staff be provided;
- (12) the potential for dementia friendly red coat tours be investigated;
- (13) information concerning dementia friendly activities is available at the tourist information centre;

- (14) such organisations as the Devon Wildlife Trust, Active Exeter, Exeter BID and Exeter Cultural Partnership be encouraged to adopt a dementia friendly approach in the provision of activities;
- (15) whether a similar review of other front line services within the Council should be undertaken at this stage and, if so, to prioritise the order for review; and
- (16) this report be shared with the Exeter Health & Wellbeing Board.

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DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW BRAND - VISIT EXETER

The Economy & Enterprise Manager presented the report on work undertaken to establish a new brand for Exeter - Visit Exeter - to increase the number of people who visit the city for a day visit, overnight leisure break, a business trip and a group visit. The report also provided an update on the development of marketing activity under the newly developed brand Visit Exeter.

The Portfolio Holder for Economy welcomed the proposal. This new contemporary brand had been aligned with the Exeter BID brand and the branding would help to raise the profile of the city within the UK and overseas as a modern visitor destination.

Place Scrutiny Committee considered the report at its meeting on 9 March 2017 and its comments were reported.

RECOMMENDED to Council that all projected additional income via Visit Exeter membership sales (estimated £82,500) was ring-fenced for tourism marketing spend.

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CHARTER FOR SUSTAINABLE BRITISH STEEL

The Deputy Leader advised that the Leader had received a letter from North Lincolnshire Council asking for Councils to pledge their support for the steel industry and its wider supply chain by joining North Lincolnshire Council and a host of public and private sector organisations in becoming a signatory to the Charter for Sustainable British Steel.

The Portfolio Holder for Support Services commented that this Council was currently reviewing its procurement policy and practices and therefore, whilst it would be an aspiration to use British Steel the implications on the Council's procurement process of signing this Charter would need to be considered. He proposed that this item be deferred to enable an appropriate way forward to be considered. This was agreed by Members.

RESOLVED that the signing of the Charter be deferred to enable consideration to be given to the implications of signing the Charter on the Council's procurement policy and procedures.

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LORD MAYORALTY

Councillor Robson was nominated as Lord Mayor Elect and Councillor Hannan as Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

RECOMMENDED to Council that Councillor Robson be nominated as Lord Mayor Elect and Councillor Hannan as Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

(The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 5.55 pm)

Chair

The decisions indicated will normally come into force 5 working days after publication of the Statement of Decisions unless called in by a Scrutiny Committee. Where the matter in question is urgent, the decision will come into force immediately. Decisions regarding the policy framework or corporate objectives or otherwise outside the remit of the Executive will be considered by Council on 25 April 2017.