

## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015 at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

**Present:** Councillor David Saunders (Chairman); Councillors G Coleman-Cooke, Campbell, Connor, Curran, Dennis, Elenor, Falcon, E Dawson, Parsons, Potts and Taylor-Smith

**In Attendance:** Councillors: Ashbee, L Fairbrass, M Saunders and Smith

### 16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Bambridge, substituted by Councillor Taylor-Smith.

### 17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 18. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor Coleman-Cooke seconded and Members agreed the minutes as a true record of the meeting that was held on 18 August 2015.

### 19. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR BRIMM, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The item was deferred to a future meeting.

### 20. THE DETERMINATION OF THE GAMBLING POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Philip Bensted, Regulatory Services Manager introduced the report and advised Members that a review of the Gambling Policy was a statutory requirement for Local Authorities. The new Gambling Commission Guidance that was published in September was taken into account during this review. No significant or material changes were needed to the proposed policy as a result of the new guidance.

The Council had received three responses to the public consultation and in all instances the respondents were supportive of the proposed policy. Council officers and inspectors from the Gambling Commission undertook regular inspections to ascertain that the gambling operations were conducted according to the set regulations and legislative requirements.

Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor Coleman-Cooke seconded and Members unanimously agreed to recommend to Council that the Policy statement should be adopted.

### 21. REVIEW OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

Nick Hughes advised Members that due to the changes in the political make-up of the Council, a report had been considered at full Council and Members had make changes to political representation on different committees of Council. This meant that membership to the three sub groups ought to be reconsidered. He provided the following options that the Panel could adopt.

One of the options was that Members could reduce the size of each sub group to 3 UKIP; 2 Conservative; 1 Democratic Independent Group (DIG). The second option was to leave the size at seven so that the membership would be: 3 UKIP; 2 Conservative; 1 DIG; 1 Labour. The third option would be to increase the membership to eight in order to have 4 UKIP; 3 Conservative; 1 DIG; 1 Labour.

Councillor Taylor-Smith proposed, Councillor Dennis seconded and Members agreed that each sub group would have a membership of seven made up of 3 UKIP; 2 Conservative; 1 DIG; 1 Labour.

Some Members were concerned that sub groups do not meet as often as required by the current TDC Constitution. They suggested that the sub-group should meet as often as the parent committee. Members also requested that future sub group scrutiny reports or presentations should contain information that Members can effectively review and inform the policy development process.

The report was received and noted.

**22. FORWARD PLAN AND EXEMPT CABINET REPORT LIST FOR THE PERIOD 07 OCTOBER - 03 MARCH 2016**

Members agreed that a report on Asset Management be considered by the Panel at a future meeting. They also requested that Portfolio Holders be in attendance at future Panel meetings to jointly introduce reports from their respective portfolio areas with officers.

Meeting concluded: 7.30 pm