

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018 at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber - Council Offices.

Present: Councillor David Saunders (Chairman); Councillors G Coleman-Cooke, Ashbee, Campbell, Connor, Curran, Dennis, Dixon, Parsons, Rusiecki and M Saunders

In Attendance: Councillor K Coleman-Cooke

154. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Martin, substituted by Councillor Mave Saunders.

155. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

156. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor Glenn Coleman-Cooke seconded and Members agreed the minutes as a correct record of the meeting that was held on 25 January 2018.

157. REVIEW OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2017/18

The Panel requested that the Chairman invited the Cabinet Member for Operational Services to make a presentation at the next meeting of the Panel on the challenges faced by the Operational Services with particular reference to street cleansing and rubbish collection.

Members noted the report.

158. ANNUAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL REPORT TO COUNCIL FOR 2017/18

Councillor Campbell and Councillor Curran, Chairmen for the Corporate Performance Review Working Party and Community Safety Partnership Working Party respectively confirmed that the summary of activities reported in the Annual Report to Council were an accurate reflection of the work programme undertaken by the two working parties.

Members agreed to forward the Annual Panel Report to Council.

159. FORWARD PLAN AND EXEMPT CABINET REPORT LIST FOR 10 JANUARY 2018 - 30 JUNE 2018

One Member was concerned that elected Members were not involved in making the decision for TDC to participate in the Business Rates Retention Pilot Scheme. At a previous Panel meeting, Members were assured that the Council would not be financially worse off by taking part in the pilot scheme.

However they were concerned that the criteria for distribution of part of the business rates retention quota did not include deprivation of an area. As a significantly deprived area Thanet would lose out to the more affluent areas in Kent who are participants in the pilot scheme.

Members sought assurances that the Council, particularly the Overview & Scrutiny Panel, would be given an opportunity to review the deal once it has been signed off to start the scheme. In response to Member comments Mr Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance said that officers had had the authority to make the decision for TDC to participate in the pilot scheme. Mr Howes also said that the Panel could be given an opportunity at some point to review the actual scheme after the pilot had been completed.

The Chairman said that the Panel could maintain a watching brief as the issue is progressed.

Members noted the report.

Meeting concluded: 7.12 pm