



Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

10 July 2019

-: Present :-

Councillors Brown, Bye, Mandy Darling, Foster, Heyse, Howgate, Kennedy and Loxton

(Also in attendance: Councillors Brooks, Cowell, Steve Darling, Doggett, Douglas-Dunbar, Ellery and Stockman)

1. Election of Chairman

Councillor Howgate was elected Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.

Councillor Howgate in the Chair

2. Appointment of Vice-chairman

Resolved: that Councillor Kennedy be appointed Vice-chairman of the Board for the ensuing Municipal Year.

3. Overview and Scrutiny Lead Members

Resolved: that the Overview and Scrutiny Lead Members be allocated the following portfolios:

Councillor Bye – Children’s Services
Councillor Mandy Darling – Health and Adult Services
Councillor Foster – Community and Corporate Services
Councillor Heyse – Place

4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 28 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Budget 2018/2019 - Quarter 4 (Outturn) Monitoring Report

The Board considered the report of the Head of Finance which provided a high level budget summary of the Council’s revenue and capital income and expenditure for the 2018/2019 financial year.

It was noted that, at the end of the year, the Council’s revenue budget was underspent by £0.5 million after the application of the previously reported one-off

funding. This was in the context of the overspend within Children's Services increasing to £5.0 million by the year-end.

The Board raised a number of questions, especially in relation to the situation in Children's Services. It was felt that further consideration of specific areas of spend may be useful, especially as further budget savings would need to be found in the future.

Resolved: that members of the Board discuss with the Head of Finance and the Cabinet Member for Finance the level of detail included in future budget monitoring reports and the methodology for reviewing that information.

6. Adult Social Care Local Account

The Board considered the draft Local Account for Adult Social Care for 2018/2019 which provided information on the performance of the service over the past year. The Chairman of Healthwatch Torbay attended the meeting and provided the views of his organisation.

The Board highlighted a number of issues including the increase in the number of safeguarding concerns reported, the support available to carers and the perceived lack of progress of the Paignton Health and Wellbeing Centre.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health invited the Board to provide feedback on the emerging Digital Technology Strategy – an offer which the Board accepted.

Resolved: that the Head of Policy, Performance and Community Engagement be authorised to provide a commentary for inclusion within the Local Account based on the debate and discussions at the meeting.

7. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/2020

Resolved: that, subject to including an update on the Housing First project during the autumn, the Work Programme for the Board be approved.

8. Climate Change

The Board considered the scope of the Climate Change Emergency strand of the Work Programme. The Chairman reported that he had filmed a short video to be shared as part of the call for evidence and invited any member of the Council to join the associated task-and-finish group.

Resolved: that the scope for the Climate Change Emergency strand of the Work Programme be agreed.

Chairman
