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**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

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Date: Thursday, 17 December 2020

To: **Members of the Communities Scrutiny Committee**

Please attend a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Thursday, 14 January 2021 at 1.30 pm**. The meeting will be held through virtual meeting software. Access credentials to the meeting will be sent to you under separate cover.

The public parts of the meeting will be streamed from the Council's website on its 'You Tube' channel.

### Virtual Attendance and Hybrid Meetings

I have provided the Leader and Deputy Leader with advice on the holding of "hybrid" meetings outlining the risks including to employees dealing with the Chamber and to Members. Hybrid meetings are those where some attendance is in person in the Council Chamber and some is virtual. I would encourage you all to attend virtually. Accordingly if you attend in person you will be deemed to have accepted the following disclaimer as applying.

### Risk Assessment Disclaimer

When attending this meeting in person, I confirm that I have read and understood the contents of each of the following risk assessments and agree to act in line with its content.

- RA – Return to Work Mill Lane Covid 19 V13
- Mill Lane Coronavirus Control Measures V8

Both documents have been emailed to Members and are available on the Modern.Gov App library.

The same advice is given to officers who are also encouraged to participate in the meeting remotely.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steuberg".

**Joint Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer**

## Members of the Committee

<u>Conservative Group</u>	<u>Labour Group</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Group</u>
Councillor Kevin Tait Councillor Oscar Gomez Reaney Councillor Lilian Deighton Councillor Roger Hall Councillor Richard Welton	Councillor Joseph Birkin Councillor Nigel Barker Councillor Jeff Lilley	Councillor David Hancock

**For further information about this meeting please contact: Damon Stanton 01246 217011**

## A G E N D A

**1 Apologies for Absence**

**2 Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

**3 Minutes of Last Meeting (Pages 4 - 7)**

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the Minutes of the Informal Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 27 November 2020.

**4 Scrutiny Review**

Discussion with the Healthy Lifestyles Officer.

**5 Pest Service Review (Page 8)**

To consider the responses to questions raised on the Pest Service Review.

**6 Scrutiny Review - Parks and Green Spaces - TO FOLLOW**

To consider further information on Parks and Green Spaces with the Head of Streetscene and the Joint Head of Streetscene & Waste Services Manager.

**7 Forward Plan of Executive Decisions**

To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions. Please note, the most up-to-date Forward Plan of Executive Decisions can be accessed via the following link:-

<https://democracy.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=1137&RD=0&bcr=1>

**8 Scrutiny Work Programme** (Pages 9 - 13)

To consider the Work Programme for the Communities Scrutiny Committee 2020/2021.

**9 Additional Urgent Items (if any)**

To consider any other matter which the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

**10 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee will be held on Friday, 5 March 2021 at 1.30 pm.



North East  
Derbyshire  
District Council

*We speak  
your language*

**Polish**

*Mówimy Twoim językiem*

**French**

*Nous parlons votre langue*

**Spanish**

*Hablamos su  
idioma*

**Slovak**

*Rozprávame Vaším  
jazykom*

**Chinese**

我们会说你的语言

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217753**

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## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2020

#### **Present:**

Councillor Kevin Tait (Chair)  
Councillor Oscar Gomez Reaney (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Nigel Barker  
Councillor Lilian Deighton  
Councillor Jeff Lilley

Councillor Joseph Birkin  
Councillor Roger Hall  
Councillor Richard Welton

#### **Also Present:**

S Bentley	Environmental Health Manager
T Rush	Environmental Enforcement Team Leader
D Stanton	Governance Officer
S Veerman	Overview and Scrutiny Manager

#### **CSC/37/ 20-21** Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor D Hancock.

#### **CSC/38/ 20-21** Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

#### **CSC/39/ 20-21** Minutes of Last Meeting

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 9 October 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **CSC/40/ 20-21** Pest Review

The Committee welcomed the Environmental Health Manager and the Environmental Enforcement Team Leader. Members considered a briefing paper which outlined a review of the Council's Pest Control Services.

Members heard that following an Internal Audit Review in 2018, the Service had committed to a fundamental review of Pest Control. The Committee was asked for comments and to provide some direction for the Review. A number of issues needed to be considered in respect of the review, such as the Council's role in public health, costs to the Authority, and efficiencies.

Members were informed that whilst Pest Control was not a statutory service, the Authority did need to take reasonable measures to keep the District free from mice and rats. It was stated that the service centred on dealing with the pests that were a threat to public health.

The Environmental Health Manager expressed concern in regards to the rise in DIY treatments, and that those treatments were themselves a threat to public health.

Members heard that going forward, the service needed to consider the type of pests it dealt with if it was to continue focusing on public health and respond promptly according to customer demand, or if it wanted to compete in the commercial market.

The Committee discussed costs and the current charges for the Council's Pest Control Services. Members noted that there was a significant increase in demand for Authorities that had not introduced fees in comparison to those that had, and that the Council offered a reduced charge for those on income related benefits. It was stated that the overall net cost to the Authority for providing a pest control service last year was £51,000. The Committee requested that the fees North East Derbyshire charged for its Pest Control Services be compared with other neighbouring local authorities.

There was a consensus that the Council should look to decrease its overall subsidy, however, there was also concern that too high a charge may prevent residents seeking help, which could further harm public health.

The Committee also discussed agile and mobile working solutions, which could ease the administrative burden on the service, as well as the potential for pest control to be provided as part of a shared service with other Authorities. Members agreed that the future was directed towards agile working, and that an initial cost to enable the service to work remotely would be a worthwhile investment if it decreased the Council's overall subsidy.

The Environmental Health Manager confirmed that the Authority did traditionally treat commercial premises, but that this tended to be small enterprises such as small local shops on a non-contract basis. Members expressed concern in regards to competing in the commercial market, on the basis that the service would be part subsidised by the tax payer.

Members enquired about enforcement that could be taken against residents who were not taking the appropriate preventative measures to prevent pests, and who were repeat requesters of the service. The Environmental Team Leader informed the Committee that the Council could issue Fixed Penalty Notices and Community Protection Notices for a range of offences including fly tipping and accumulating waste that attracts pests.

Members thanked the officers for attending the meeting.

The officers then left the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**CSC/41/** **Scrutiny Review**  
**20-21**

(a) Healthy Lifestyles Team

The Overview and Scrutiny Manager informed Members that the lead officer was unable to attend the meeting, and as such submitted a briefing paper that outlined obesity in younger residents of primary school age for Members to consider.

Members had a number of questions including what were the capabilities of the Healthy Lifestyles Team; the costs, measured outcomes and alternative measures of different social investments; what the Council was doing to tackle obesity in residents from poorer backgrounds; and the impacts of the Pandemic on schools. The Committee also had concerns in regards to the number of actions that had been labelled as red on the progress indicator.

The Committee agreed that they would like further information, and as such would be prepared to re-schedule the next meeting so that the lead officer could attend to answer questions.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

(b) Children's Play Areas in North East Derbyshire, (5c) Playground Inspections, and (5d) Open Space, Sports and Recreation Sites

The Committee considered a number of documents which outlined the District's play areas, open spaces, and recreation sites.

The Committee requested further information, such as the types of equipment provided; whether it was regularly inspected; its age and condition; how regularly it was used; and costs of maintenance and vandalism. Members also enquired about what the Council was doing to maintain its open spaces, such as the Five Pits Trail.

Members agreed that the Pandemic had significantly increased the demand for good quality parks and open spaces, and as such it was vital they were kept in good condition to promote exercise and a healthy lifestyle.

The Committee requested that the Joint Head of Streetscene be invited to the next meeting to clarify the information provided and to answer questions from Members.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**CSC/42/** **Forward Plan of Executive Decisions**  
**20-21**

AGREED – That the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions be noted.

**CSC/43/  
20-21**     **Scrutiny Work Programme**

The Committee agreed to reschedule the next meeting in order to accommodate an officer interview.

AGREED – That the Work Programme be noted.

**CSC/44/  
20-21**     **Additional Urgent Items (if any)**

There were no additional items to be discussed at this meeting.

**CSC/45/  
20-21**     **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee would be rescheduled and confirmed in due course.

## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JANUARY 2021

### RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER ON THE PEST SERVICE REVIEW

- (1) Do we want to deliver the service or do we want to compete in commercial market?

We have done some benchmarking work to better understand the commercial market and so this will also form part of a further report. Charging scenarios will be presented as part of the options being presented.

- (2) How could we deal with reduced charges and the false visits for wasps effectively?

I would suggest that charges for aborted visits in cases such as wasps would reduce false visits. There are a few issues such as this which have been identified as part of the review and suggested resolutions will be raised alongside options for the service.

- (3) What would be our three year plan to reduce costs/loss? Referred to charges sheets and asked for more comparisons locally

Benchmarking has been undertaken with all Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LAs and this work is feeding into the charging scenarios, which will form part of a further report.

- (4) How many are in the team, how much administration time (hours) are used in supporting the service?

We have two pest control operative posts in the joint service and all administrative duties are undertaken by our Technical Support Team in Environmental Health and these duties are spread amongst various officers as part of their duties. Work already completed has involved calculating the cost to deliver each pest treatment type. Within this we have included the time taken by our Technical Support Team.

- (5) What is the full projected cost of the service?

Future projected costs will depend on the service provision, but further details will form part of a further report.

- (6) What is the income expected for the year?

This year so far the income is approximately £12,000 and the budgeted income is £17,000.



**COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21**  
**FRIDAY at 1:30 pm**

**Chair: Cllr Kevin Tait    Vice Chair: Cllr Oscar Gomez Reaney**

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>SCRUTINY ACTIVITY</b>	<b>WHAT IT WILL COVER</b>	<b>UPDATE/COMMENTS</b>
<b>19th June, 2020</b>	Remit of the Committee		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing on Scrutiny :               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- setting the scene</li> <li>- the terms of reference for the Committee</li> <li>- How the Committee operates, ways of working– Discussion</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Sue Veerman -Overview and Scrutiny Manager/Committee Members
	Draft Work Programme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To discuss items for the draft work programme for the year and any suggested items for inclusion</li> </ul>	Committee Members/ Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Selection of Scrutiny Review Topic	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To consider the Committees topic for a Scrutiny review</li> <li>• Consider what we want to look at</li> <li>• Consider stakeholders who we want to see</li> </ul>	Committee Members

**Agenda Item 8**

	Community Safety Partnership	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the work of the Partnership for the year against the partnership plan</li> </ul>	Community Safety Partnership
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman- Overview and Scrutiny Manager
<b>7<sup>th</sup> August, 2020</b>	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoping and Scene setting for the 2020/21 Scrutiny Review</li> </ul>	Lead Officer – Matt Broughton
	Previous Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider progress against the action plan – Scrutiny Review of Homelessness</li> </ul>	Karl Apps – Head of Service Lee Pepper – Housing Options Team Leader – Sign Off
	Residential Parking Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Finalise the 2019/20 Scrutiny Review Report</li> </ul>	Committee
	CCTV	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider progress</li> </ul>	Councils Solicitor – Kevin Shillitto
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Scrutiny Work Programme	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Committees’ work programme</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman Overview and Scrutiny Manager
<b>9<sup>th</sup> October, 2020</b>	CCTV	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider a further update on progress of mandatory CCTV in Taxis</li> </ul>	Sarah Sternberg – Head of Service Kevin Shillitto - Solicitor
	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of Project Plan and Timetable</li> <li>Consideration of any Documentation</li> </ul>	Committee

	Previous Review – Domestic Abuse	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update on progress against the action plan – presentation</li> </ul>	Karen Hanson – Director of Place
	Scrutiny Review	Review	<p>Interviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head of Street scene</li> </ul>	
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Scrutiny Work Programme	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Committees' work programme</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman -Overview and Scrutiny Manager
<b>27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020</b>	Pest Review	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefing Paper and discussion on Review with the Environmental Health Manager</li> </ul>	Sam Bentley – Environmental Health Manager
	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthy Lifestyles Team – To consider a Briefing Paper</li> <li>Documentation on play areas and open spaces &amp; recreation areas</li> </ul>	
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Scrutiny Work Programme	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Committees' work programme</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman Overview and Scrutiny Manager

<b>14th January, 2021 THURSDAY</b>	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Lifestyles Team - Discussion</li> </ul>	Kelly Massey – Health and Wellbeing Development Officer
	Pest Service Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To further consider the Pest Service Review</li> </ul>	
	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider further information on Parks and Green Spaces</li> </ul>	Steve Brunt – HOS Darren Mitchell – Joint Street Scene and Waste Manager
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Scrutiny Work Programme	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Committee’s Work Programme</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
<b>5<sup>th</sup> March, 2021</b>	Health Partnership Working	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider progress on the Healthy North East Derbyshire Approach</li> </ul>	Tris Burdett - Partnership Officer
	Pest Service Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Pest Service Review</li> </ul>	Sam Bentley – Environmental manager
	Scrutiny Review	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Triangulation of evidence – Scrutiny Review</li> </ul>	Members
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager

	Scrutiny Work Programme	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider whether the Committees' work programme has been completed at year end</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
<b>14th May, 2021</b>	Community Safety Partnership	Monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review the work of the Partnership</li> </ul>	Faye Green - Community Partnership Manager
	Street scene	monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the services performance including recycling</li> </ul>	Steve Brunt, HOS - Street scene
	Draft Scrutiny Review report	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To agree the draft report for Scrutiny Review</li> </ul>	Committee Members
	Monitoring of O&S recommendations	Monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To monitor the implementation of previous committee and review recommendations</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager
	Scrutiny Work Programme	Consultee, monitor and challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the Committee's Work Programme</li> </ul>	Sue Veerman - Overview and Scrutiny Manager