

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2021

Present:

Councillor Anthony Hutchinson (Chair)

Councillor Nigel Barker
Councillor John Funnell
Councillor Alex Platts

Councillor Suzy Cornwell
Councillor Lee Hartshorne
Councillor Philip Wright

Also Present:

D Broom	Facilities and Contracts Manager
J Dethick	Assistant Director - Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer)
B Harrison	Senior Regeneration Officer and Urban Designer
L Hickin	Director of Operations and Head of Paid Service
A Kimber	Interim Head of Property and Estates
D Stanton	Governance Officer
J Talbot	Procurement Officer
S Veerman	Overview and Scrutiny Manager
S Williams	Procurement Manager

GSC/ Apologies for Absence

21/2

1-22 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor M Emmens and M Roe.

GSC/ Declarations of Interest

22/2

1-22 Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interest, 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.

GSC/ Minutes of Last Meeting

23/2

1-22 RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 2 August 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

GSC/ Procurement

24/2

1-22 The Head of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer and the Procurement Team were present at the meeting to discuss the procurement arrangements at NEDDC.

The Committee heard that procurement provided its services to three local authorities (North East Derbyshire District Council, Bolsover District Council, and Gedling Borough Council) and some parish councils.

Members received a presentation which outlined a number of key elements to the procurement service including the general principles of procurement, procurement stages, routes to market, the E-procurement system, and working with officers and suppliers.

The Committee was informed about the social value impact which was used to determine what weight should be given to local businesses, the local economy and provide local employment opportunities.

Members heard how the procurement service supported the Council's services by assisting them during the process. This included support in identifying a framework, going to open tender, using the online portal, and setting criteria on the scoring methodology. It was stated that contract management was handed over to service managers after the procurement process had finished.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

GSC/ Dronfield Development

25/2

1-22

The Committee welcomed the Senior Urban Regeneration Officer to the meeting to provide an update on emerging proposals for the Dronfield Civic Centre area.

Members discussed the Dronfield Civic Centre area and the issues that it had faced in recent years, along with issues such as parking, vacant retail units and a general decline in the built environment around the Civic Centre shops.

The Committee was informed that a steering group was meeting next month to decide the next steps.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

GSC/ Discussion on Assets

26/2

1-22

The Assistant Director of Property Services and the Facilities and Contracts Manager were present at the meeting to discuss the management of assets at North East Derbyshire District Council.

Members received a presentation which informed them of the management of operational assets – testing and repairs; management of operational assets – project update; management of investment portfolio; and management of land assets.

The Committee also discussed the capital works programme, the sale of specific assets, small business units, the Bridge Street Depot, and Council and Rykneld owned offices.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

GSC/ In House Services

27/2

1-22 The Committee welcomed the Director of Corporate Resources and Head of Paid Service to discuss In House Services.

Members heard that the Authority outsourced a number of services including occupational health, internal audit, cleaning services, and fitness instructors. There were also a number of joint officers and jointly provided services with Bolsover District Council (BDC) such as Joint Assistant Directors and Streetscene for example. It was explained that there were several examples of these where officers were either employed on BDC contracts or NEDDC contracts, but worked 50/50 across both authorities, with either NEDDC or BDC subsequently charging the other for their services.

The Committee was informed that the Authority looked to sell its services when appropriate as it was a good way of raising income. One example of this was the Joint Procurement Service which also provided its services to Gedling Borough Council and were currently in discussion with Mansfield District Council to provide the same – this in turn generated an income to the Council.

The Committee discussed the recycling service which had recently been brought in house.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

GSC/ Scrutiny Review

28/2

1-22 The Committee agreed to defer the selection of the Review topic until the next meeting. The Director of Corporate Resources and Head of Paid Service agreed to inform the Committee of any Review topic suggestions he could think of prior to the next meeting.

GSC/ Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

29/2

1-22 AGREED – That the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions be noted.

GSC/ Work Programme

30/2

1-22 The Committee agreed to continue to monitor assets further at a future meeting.

AGREED – That the Work Programme be noted.

GSC/ Additional Urgent Items

31/2

1-22 There were no additional urgent items at this meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee.

GSC/ Date of Next Meeting

32/2

1-22 The next meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee would take place on Monday 22 November 2021 at 1pm.