

Meeting	Economy & Place Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Date	12 June 2019
Present	Councillors S Barnes (Chair), Daubeney (Vice-Chair), Baker, Douglas, Hook, Pearson and K Taylor

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or discloseable pecuniary interest that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. Cllr K Taylor declared an interest as a Non Executive Director of City of York Trading Board in relation to the Make it York and Yorwaste elements of the Committee's remit.

2. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Economy and Place Policy Development Committee meeting held on 5 March 2019 be noted as a correct record and then signed by the Chair.

3. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

4. Arrangements for Policy and Scrutiny in York

Members considered a report that highlighted the structure for the Council's provision of the scrutiny function and the resources available to support it. The report also detailed the current terms of reference for the individual Policy and Scrutiny Committees.

Following an overview of the report by the Scrutiny Officer, he was asked and explained:

- The rationale for the new scrutiny arrangements, in particular the pre decision process which allowed Scrutiny Committees to make

contributions at an earlier stage. An explanation of the role of task groups was also given, including how recommendations would be made to the Committee and, if endorsed, be recommended to the Executive.

- The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee would be advised of matters of priority and would decide which matters would come to the Committee for consideration.
- The work plan included details on Executive Members attending Committee meetings to update Members on their portfolios.
- Members were encouraged to put forward their ideas for scrutiny areas, including ideas of external partners that could be invited to attend future meetings.

Mike Slater (Assistant Director Planning and Public Protection) and James Gilchrist (Assistant Director Transport, Highways and Environment) provided Members with an outline of their areas of responsibility in the Directorate of Economy and Place. In response to questions, Members were advised that:

- The question of welfare policy being under the Head of Economic Growth would be reported back to the Committee.
- Streetworks came under the responsibility of the Assistant Director Transport, Highways and Environment.

Following discussion, the Scrutiny Officer confirmed that he could produce a one page synopsis of the Committee's work over the past year.

Resolved: That Members note the contents of the report and the specific remits of the individual Policy and Scrutiny Committees.

Reason: To inform Members of scrutiny arrangements.

5. Draft Work Plan 2019-20 and work planning for the new municipal year

Members considered the draft Work Plan 2019-20 and work planning for the new municipal year. During discussion regarding potential items for the work plan, the following suggestions were put forward:

1. High value jobs. How York has performed in recent years and whether we can make the most of the developments at York Central to ensure growth of high-skilled jobs and growth of high-skilled jobs in the green sector.
2. A raft or work around an inclusive economy in York:

- Pay in work poverty;
- Gender pay gap;
- Apprenticeships and skills – how we use apprenticeship levy in the council and also its use around the city;
- Low paid industries – hospitality and tourism – and how we encourage career progression in those industries
- Graduate retention;
- Stem the loss of skilled people;
- Sustainable growth and social values;
- Community wealth

3. Performance on road repairs. This is an unavoidable issue across the city. Deep dive into repairs – road surfaces, not just pot holes

4. Review of Business rates system to see if it is fit for purpose

5. Bus services in outlying areas

6. Parking across the city. Increasing use of park and ride to reduce the number of people parking on city centre streets.

The Chair stated that half of the meeting would be focussed on policy and the other half on scrutiny under the work plan.

Resolved: That the above items for the Committee's work plan for the 2019/20 municipal year be considered at the next meeting.

Reason: To keep the Committee's work plan updated.

Cllr S Barnes, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.45 pm].