

**SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS FOR
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, 3 September 2024 at 7.00 pm
Council Chamber - Civic Centre**

The attached documents are due to be considered at the meeting listed above and were unavailable for circulation when the agenda for the meeting was published. The agenda items to which the documents relate is noted below.

10. Climate Change Task and Finish Group - Update (Pages 2 - 3)
11. Playhouse, Arts and Cultural Quarter Task and Finish Group - Update (Pages 4 - 5)

**MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE TASK AND FINISH GROUP
HELD ON**

22 August 2024

2.00 - 3.20 pm

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Jake Shepherd (Chair)
Councillor Kay Morrison

Officers

Vicky Forgione, Principal Forward Planning Officer
Tanusha Waters, Assistant Director - Planning and Building Control
Alan Evans, Interim Strategic Director
Hannah Marriott, Governance Support Officer

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

RESOLVED that Councillor Jake Shepherd be elected as Chair.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Michael Garnett and Mark Ingall.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- To identify measures which could help the council meet its net zero targets following the declaration of a climate emergency.
- To work with Officers to develop strategies, action plans or similar that relate to Climate Change.
- To make recommendations to Cabinet, via the Scrutiny Committee, on the above
- Advise on priorities of focus in the Climate Change Strategy and forward plan of actions
- Develop monitoring/risk strategies of delivering Net Zero targets
- Facilitate collective action across departments
- Consider future budgets

5. **KEY DISCUSSION AND ACTION POINTS**

Vicky Forgione, Principal Forward Planning Officer, gave a presentation introduction to the draft Climate Change Strategy.

The Task and Finish group noted that Councillor Bentley was the Climate Change Tsar at Essex County Council. The group also noted that, once consultation had been carried out on the draft Climate Change Strategy, a report would go to Scrutiny and then to Cabinet for approval and adoption.

The group noted that currently there was no budget for climate change and that extra capacity would be needed.

The group agreed that it would like to invite Councillor Bentley to a future meeting.

Officers agreed to send the consultation strategy to the group after the meeting.

The group agreed to meet quarterly or more often if necessary. It was also suggested that officers consider creating a Microsoft Teams channel to allow members and officers to share documents.

CHAIR OF TASK AND FINISH GROUP

**MINUTES OF THE PLAYHOUSE, ARTS AND CULTURAL QUARTER TASK
AND FINISH GROUP
HELD ON**

21 August 2024

6.00 - 7.34 pm

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Tony Durcan (Chair)

Councillor Tony Edwards

Councillor James Griggs

Councillor Sue Livings

Councillor Matthew Sagers

Officers

Alan Evans, Interim Strategic Director

Justin Hopwood, Pets Corner Manager

James Gardner, Assistant Director - Regeneration

Hannah Marriott, Governance Support Officer

Suzanna Wood, Housing Development and Regeneration Manager

Oliver Gillard, Deputy Programme Manager

David Sellings, Regeneration Programme Manager (Town Centre)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

RESOLVED that Councillor Tony Durcan be elected as Chair.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Emma Ghaffari.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Tony Durcan declared a non-pecuniary interest as ward councillor for Town Centre and Little Parndon.

Councillor Sue Livings declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of Harlow Art Trust.

Councillor James Griggs declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Chair of the Playhouse Trust and a trustee of Raised Roof.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- To understand the current model of Revenue Funding for the Playhouse and the Arts.
- To explore the revenue implications of the development of the Cultural Quarter.

- To consider whether the current Harlow Arts Policy/s are fit for purpose.
- To explore the approach of other Council's e.g. Colchester, Stockton, Stevenage refunding and promoting the Arts.
- To make proposals to Cabinet re potential revenue funding models
- To make proposals to Cabinet regarding an Arts Policy for the Town.

5. **KEY DISCUSSION AND ACTION POINTS**

Officers gave a short presentation on the levelling up fund bid and a programme and delivery update.

Councillor James Griggs raised concerns over whether there would be enough room for the large trucks the service the Playhouse through the new cultural quarter. The Task and Finish group also noted that it would also be important to keep the Playhouse open as best as possible during construction of the project.

The Task and Finish group noted that consultants, Counter Culture, would be submitting their final report in October 2024. The group would like Counter Culture to attend to give a presentation on their report.

Alan Evans, Interim Strategic Director, and James Gardner, Assistant Director – Regeneration and Commercial Development, agreed to put together a map for the group.

The group noted that Councillors may wish to meet outside of the session to discuss the Terms of Reference. The group also wanted to create a portfolio of documents which included the presentation from the meeting.

Finally, the group noted that a site visit to another cultural quarter, such as Colchester, could be worthwhile.

CHAIR OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP