

## MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON

16 March 2021

7.30 - 8.50 pm

### PRESENT

#### Committee Members

Councillor Tony Edwards (Chair)  
Councillor David Carter (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Simon Carter  
Councillor Joel Charles  
Councillor Bob Davis  
Councillor Michael Hardware (as substitute for Councillor Shona Johnson)  
Councillor Maggie Hulcoop  
Councillor Shannon Jezzard  
Councillor Stefan Mullard  
Councillor Emma Toal

#### Officers

Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing  
Simon Hill, Head of Governance  
Adam Rees, Governance Support Officer

#### 45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shona Johnson.  
Councillor Michael Hardware was in attendance as her substitute.

#### 46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following pecuniary interests were declared in respect of Item 8,  
Delivery of Council House Building Programme – Final Report.

- i) Councillor Joel Charles as a Council appointed remunerated Director of HTS (Housing and Regeneration) Ltd and HTS Group Ltd
- ii) Councillor Simon Carter as a Council appointed remunerated Director of HTS (Property and Environment) Ltd
- iii) Councillor Bob Davis as a Council appointed remunerated Director of HTS (Property and Environment) Ltd and HTS Group Ltd
- iv) Councillor Emma Toal as a Council appointed remunerated Director of HTS (Housing and Regeneration) Ltd.

Councillor Charles also declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9, Policing and Community Safety Annual Review – Recommendation to Cabinet as a Director of a UK and Irish business group which deals with deals with large Government justice service contracts.

47. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2021 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

48. **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

49. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None.

50. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

None.

51. **RESPONSES OF THE CABINET TO REPORTS OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

None.

52. **DELIVERY OF COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING PROGRAMME - FINAL REPORT**

The Committee received the final report on the review of the delivery of the Council House building programme. The Committee agreed to create an additional recommendation to carry out a review of the Council's learning and development, guidance alongside the appraisal process for staff delivering the Housing Building Programme.

**RESOLVED** that it is recommended to Cabinet that it adopts the recommendations set out in the consultant's report (attached as Appendix A to the original report), along with an additional recommendation to carry out a review of the Council's approach to learning and guidance alongside the appraisal process.

53. **POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ANNUAL REVIEW - RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET**

The Committee discussed recommendations and further action it wished to take following a question and answer session with Essex Police at the previous meeting. The Committee considered recent crime data and agreed to set up a sub group to oversee the scoping of a review into

domestic abuse and harassment, with this review being considered as item when the Committee sets its work plan for 2021/22.

**RESOLVED** that a sub group be set up to oversee the scoping of a review into domestic abuse and harassment.

54. **WORK PLAN**

The Committee received a report summarising its work plan for 2020/21.

**RESOLVED** that the work plan be noted.

55. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

56. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE