

## MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON

3 September 2024

7.00 - 8.44 pm

### PRESENT

#### Committee Members

Councillor Tony Edwards (Chair)  
Councillor Matthew Saggars (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Tony Durcan  
Councillor Michael Garnett  
Councillor Mark Ingall  
Councillor Kay Morrison  
Councillor Russell Perrin

#### Also Present

Councillor David Carter  
Councillor Michael Hardware  
Councillor Nicky Purse  
Councillor Jake Shepherd  
Councillor Dan Swords

#### Officers

Yvonne Rees, Interim Chief Executive  
Donna Beechener, Assistant Director - Revenues and Benefits  
Alan Evans, Interim Strategic Director  
Rebecca Farrant, Assistant Director - Corporate Services  
James Gardner, Assistant Director - Regeneration  
Jacqui Van Mellaerts, Assistant Director - Finance  
Richard Oliver, Interim Assistant Director - Housing and Property  
Adam Rees, Senior Governance Support Officer

### 12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dr. Emma Ghaffari and Stacy Seales. Councillor Andrew Johnson was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Ghaffari.

### 13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 14. MINUTES

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2024 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

15. **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

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

None.

17. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

None.

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

None.

19. **BUDGET MONITORING AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Committee received a report on budget monitoring and performance for July 2024, which was presented by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Dan Swords.

**RESOLVED** that the Committee noted the report.

20. **COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

The Committee received a report on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. The report was presented by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Michael Hardware.

**RESOLVED** that the Council will consult with the public and Major Precepting Authorities on the introduction of a new income banded / grid scheme for working age applicants with effect from 1 April 2025.

21. **CLIMATE CHANGE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - UPDATE**

A verbal report was given by Councillor Shepherd on the initial meeting of the Task and Finish group. The group has yet to be formally appointed. The terms of reference would be reported back to a future committee meeting for ratification.

**RESOLVED** that the update was noted.

22. **PLAYHOUSE, ARTS AND CULTURAL QUARTER TASK AND FINISH GROUP - UPDATE**

A verbal report was given by Councillor Durcan on the initial meeting of the Task and Finish Group. The group will report formally on their progress

once minutes have been agreed. The terms of reference would be reported back to a future committee meeting for ratification.

**RESOLVED** that the update was noted.

23. **WORK PLAN**

The Committee received a report summarising its work plan.

It was noted the review of domestic abuse and sexual harassment would be considered as part of the question and answer session with the Police.

It was also noted that concerns raised by Councillor Saggars relating to knife crime will be included in the question answer session with the Police.

A topic submission on the Burnt Mill development would be scheduled for inclusion in the Work Plan.

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

24. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

25. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE