

SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 23 JULY 2014

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny Committee met on the evening of 23 June 2014.

The first item considered was the **Performance Monitoring Report – year end 2013/14 (April 2013 to March 2014)**. The committee congratulated the council on its performance during 2013/2014 and the significant efficiencies achieved. It commended the council for signing up to the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal. The committee welcomed the fact that the committee's comments on the corporate customer survey were implemented and that carrying out an electronic survey be explored further. It looks forward to the Corporate Plan targets for the current year being reviewed in light of last year's satisfaction survey results to ensure that they are robust. The committee requested a breakdown of how the proposed efficiencies for the current financial year will be delivered and the impact of those efficiencies. The committee recommended that the dog fouling marking/alert pilot be rolled out across the borough and that the council mounts a publicity campaign to encourage residents to keep their area clean and include the My Neighbourhood Forums. It requested that a Member Learning Hour be arranged on the council's business support service. The committee suggested that further information on the occupancy rates of other town and district centres be shared with the Scrutiny Committee.

The next item considered was the **Our People Plan Outturn 2013/2014, Draft Our People Plan 2014/2015 and Employee Survey Results**. The committee welcomed that the employee survey results are positive. It requested a report on the actions and progress being made in responding to the feedback in the employee survey be presented to the Scrutiny Committee within six months. It suggested that an update on the progress being made in achieving the sickness absence target be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in six-month's time. The committee expressed its concern at the low number of employee appraisals that have been carried out and requested a progress report at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

The penultimate item was the draft reports on the **Joint Scrutiny Review of NHS Healthchecks** and the **Scrutiny Review of Planning**. The committee resolved that both reports be endorsed.

The final item discussed by the committee was an **Update on Scrutiny Reviews and Scrutiny Matters**. The committee agreed to conduct two cross-cutting reviews for 2014-2015: (1) Partners' preparation and response to the Ageing Population and (2) Road injuries and casualties in South Ribble (jointly with Lancashire County Council's Scrutiny Committee). A meeting had been arranged with Lancashire County Council with regard to the Scrutiny Review of Drainage and Flooding. The draft protocol on Local Health Scrutiny in South Ribble had been received from the Centre of Public Scrutiny and would shortly be considered by the committee for endorsement (a representative would be in attendance to present the report). The chairman reported that he had been unable to attend the last meeting of the Lancashire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee however Councillor M Gardner attended on his behalf and that the written report would be circulated to all members. In respect of meetings and training attended by members – none were reported. The committee considered and noted its forward plan and also that of the Cabinet.

I hereby commend the report of the Scrutiny Committee to the Council.

COUNCILLOR MICK TITHERINGTON
CHAIRMAN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE