

SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 18 MARCH 2014

ITEM 5

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

<i>Date of Meeting & Min. No.</i>	<i>Title and Recommendation</i>	<i>Portfolio Holder/ Responsible Officer</i>	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Explanation/Progress</i>
30 05/11/13	<p>Performance Monitoring Report: Mid-Year 2013/14 (April 2013 to September 2013)</p> <p>5. the committee urges the Leader to ensure that a solution is found to the vacant post of Director of Development and Planning as soon as possible;</p> <p>8. the committee recommends greater links between the City Deal and the Leyland Board;</p>	<p>Leader of the Council / M Nuttall</p> <p>Leader of the Council / D Johnson</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p><i>A proposal to re-structure the council's senior management team was considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2014.</i></p> <p><i>The governance arrangements for the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal are now in place. These arrangements do not recognise the Leyland Board or Preston City Councils equivalent. There is no link between the City Deal and the Leyland Board.</i></p>
37 10/12/13	<p>Waste Management Partnership</p> <p>4. the committee recommends that the council launches a publicity campaign to reduce the amount/level of packaging.</p>	Deputy Leader and Neighbourhoods & Street Scene / M Gaffney	No		<i>This issue needs to be driven at a national level through government policy. A local campaign is unlikely to make a difference.</i>
46 27/01/14	<p>Review of 'My Neighbourhoods' Arrangements</p> <p>3. the committee recommends that all councillors:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) be further encouraged to get more involved with the My Neighbourhood Forums and their local community projects; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) be provided with</p>	<p>Regeneration, Leisure & Healthy Communities / D Johnson</p> <p>(Response from the</p>	Yes		<p>All Councillors are encouraged to participate in their forums and already work with their local communities.</p> <p>We will continue to hold Learning Hours,</p>

	<p>learning/development opportunities to help them engage with their residents/communities;</p> <p>4. the committee recommends that greater links are made between the My Neighbourhood Forums and partners (such as health, housing associations and leisure);</p> <p>5. the committee recommends that the follow-up/action arising and feedback on issues raised by residents/communities at My Neighbourhood Forums be reviewed and improved;</p> <p>6. the committee requests that the Governance Committee review the process for agreeing expenditure (with a view to streamlining the process);</p>	<p>Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p> <p>(Response from the Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p> <p>(Response from the Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p> <p>(Response from the Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p>	<p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>		<p>to develop the skills that Councillors consider need reinforcing.</p> <p>Strong working partnerships are already in place and partners, from the groups suggested and from wider partnerships, already engage through the forums. The South Ribble Strategic Partnership engages and monitors with the My Neighbourhood Forums and continues to fund local My Neighbourhood initiatives.</p> <p>All people attending the forum, including Councillors, will be reminded to use the 'ballot box' to record issues. This mechanism helps to ensure the public or community groups receive proper feedback. Whilst Councillors conversations with the public cannot be recorded by officers during the forums, if they use the ballot box then requests and actions can be processed and assigned.</p> <p>The Chairs and Vice Chairs discussed this issue to try and resolve where it is up to. Chairs and Vice Chairs would support a streamlining of the system, especially for smaller amounts of funding, which follow the delegated decision process. This is not perceived as cost effective and uses a considerable amount of officer time.</p> <p>Discussions suggested that the Chair of Governance did not wish to review this procedure. However this needs</p>
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	<p>7. the committee recommends that the sharing of good practice across the council's five My Neighbourhood Forums be in a more effective and structured way;</p> <p>8. the committee recommends that more thought be given to ensuring that plans and projects are representative of the wider community and not reliant on a small number of residents attending My Neighbourhood Forum meetings;</p>	<p>(Response from the Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p> <p>(Response from the Chairs and Vice Chairs My Neighbourhood Forums).</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>		<p>confirming.</p> <p>Whilst there is an open invitation between forums to attend each other's forums, it was recognised that this could be reiterated. In addition dates of all forums will be promoted to all other forums and councillors. Share and learn sessions will be organised for Councillors so that best practice can be shared between forums. More information will be put on Councillor Connect. The Chairs and Vice Chairs meetings will continue.</p> <p>It was considered that a wide audience already attends and that the My Neighbourhood forums have seen representations by all sorts of new groups including children, horse riders, creative groups etc.</p> <p>Finally an invitation to the Committee to attend all My Neighbourhood forums to see the diversity across the borough and how the different forums works in a similar but also different ways was offered.</p>
<p>47 27/01/14</p>	<p>Housing Services – progress update</p> <p>2. the committee strongly encourages the Cabinet member (and Leader of the Council) to resolve the current vacant post of Director of Planning & Development as soon as possible;</p> <p>4. the committee looks forward to learning why properties without mains gas are not eligible for the Winter Warm Scheme;</p>	<p>Strategic Planning & Housing / D Johnson</p>			<p><i>A proposal to re-structure the council's senior management team was considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2014.</i></p> <p>Properties on LPG and not on mains gas are included in the scheme. The exemption is for properties on oil or solid fuel appliances which is due to the costs</p>

	<p>5. the committee requests that in view of the relatively low take-up last year, an evaluation of the cheaper energy scheme be carried out to ensure resources are used effectively;</p> <p>6. the committee requests that customer friendly information is produced for residents explaining how the Disabled Facilities Grant process works;</p>				<p>of servicing which can be up to £120.00 per appliance and then any repairs or replacements would equally be more costly, as the majority of residents are using gas and the cost of the service / repairs are lower ie £45 for 2 appliances the council can maximise the funding and help a large number of residents. However this can be considered for the next bid.</p> <p>Whilst take-up was low South Ribble Borough Council was in the top 5 Lancashire councils where residents had registered. As this was the first initiative of its kind we were uncertain of how it would be received. Lancashire County Council has decided to promote the scheme again this year and this has been promoted via a press release and leaflets in Gateway provided by Lancashire County Council.</p> <p>This piece of work will be timetabled in for completion by the end of March 2014.</p>