

Improving Places Select Commission

Notes from the Informal meeting

Wednesday 20th July 2016

Attendees:

Cllr Allen
Cllr Buckley
Cllr Marles
Cllr Turner
Cllr Wyatt

Cllr Atkin
 Cllr Mallinder (Chair)
 Cllr Price
 Cllr Walsh

James McLaughlin
Chris Majer

Democratic Services Manager
Scrutiny Officer

Apologies:

Cllr Jepson
Cllr Jones
Cllr Whysall

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | <p>Terms of Reference for Improving Places to be circulated</p> <p>Action Point</p> | CM |
| 2 | <p>Notes from this informal meeting to be sent to James McLaughlin to be published with the Agenda for the next formal meeting on Friday 29th July 2016 at 11:30</p> <p>Action Point</p> | CM/
JMCL |
| 3 | <p>Pre Meetings prior to the Commission meeting.</p> <p>Discussions took place regarding the various options for pre (planning) meetings. CM outlined the ways in which other Commissions operate.</p> <p>Suggestions to use the computer app – Share Point to elevate the need for a meeting when discussions can take place on line, with Members have the option to join the discussions when available/necessary.</p> <p>Action Point – Share Point to be looked at as a suitable tool for pre meeting/planning discussions</p> | CM/
JMCL |
| 4 | <p>Forward Plan of Key Decisions/Pre Decision Scrutiny</p> <p>After discussions, the meeting supported the view that more detailed information was needed on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions, as currently it lacked context. This information was needed to allow Members to take a more informed decision in respect of identifying items for pre-decision scrutiny.</p> | |

Action Point. For further details to be included on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions including a column to highlight which Commission the decision relates to.

JMcL

5 Work Programme

Working from a list of proposals each topic was discussed in turn and the following decisions agreed. .

The prioritisation tool PAPERS was used to assist with choosing topics.

Dignity – Damien Wilson, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment was currently undertaking a detailed review of the contract. Members identified that they wanted to invite Damien to attend a meeting when an assessment had been completed. A decision will be made once the information has been presented as to whether further work would be required by the Commission.

The following projects were identified as potential topics for more detail review.

Rotherham Town Centre

The point was raised that the regeneration of town centres across the borough required consideration. Whilst recognising the importance of Rotherham Town Centre, it was noted that other town centres required attention and Members would value an overview of what is being done to develop other town centres.

Transport

It was noted that public transport in rural areas is an issue. Members were also mindful that not everyone has the option of owning a car, and there was a need to ensure that those without cars have suitable options for travel.

Emergency Planning

This has been a shared service with Sheffield for approx. four years and no examination of how the service was operating had been carried out. As nine years had elapsed since the floods of 2007, it was thought this would be a good time to be assured that lessons have been learnt from that experience and other incidents that have occurred elsewhere nationally since that time.

The following projects were not prioritised for inclusion on the work programme.

HS2

As this was a Government Initiative on a national scale, it was recognised that there was little opportunity for the Commission to influence this work. It was further noted that much of the discussions on local impact would take place at City Region level.

Impact of Business Rate Retention.

It was not clear exactly how Business Rate Retention would operate and further decisions would be required locally and nationally before the Commission could add value.

Housing Revenue Account

It was noted that this was something much larger than the Commission could realistically seek to review and have an impact on. It was also noted that the Neighbourhood Working Member Review Group would also be looking at this area within its activities.

It was suggested that the list be prioritised and one topic chosen for further detailed review.

Cllr Allen indicated that she would submit apologies for the next meeting and highlighted her preference for Town Centres, which is also the preferred option for Cllr Price.

Cllr McNeely requested the dates for any review should be listed at the start of the process so they could be included in Member's diaries and not wait until the end of each meeting to decide when the next meeting should be.

6 Date and Times of Improving Places Select Commissions.

The meeting was asked about the current dates/times of IPSC meetings for the rest of the year and whether or not changes needed to be made to them.

The meeting agreed to keep the existing dates but meet at 1pm for a Member Pre-Meeting with the commission meeting formally commencing at 1:30p.m in public.

7 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Friday 29th July at 11:30a.m. – Council Chamber, Rotherham Town Hall