

**Minutes of the Meeting of the AUDIT, CRIME & DISORDER AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE held on 25 June 2019**

PRESENT -

Councillor Steve Bridger (Chair); Councillor Alex Coley (Vice-Chair); Councillors Nigel Collin, Liz Frost, Rob Geleit, David Gulland, Steven McCormick, Phil Neale, Humphrey Reynolds and Alan Sursham

In Attendance: Councillor Bernie Muir, Joe Easterbrook (Borough Inspector) (Surrey Police) (Items 1 - 4 only)

Absent:

Officers present: Rod Brown (Head of Housing and Community), Amardip Healy (Chief Legal Officer), Margaret Jones (Business Assurance Manager) and Tim Richardson (Committee Administrator)

1 QUESTION TIME

No questions were asked or had been submitted by members of the public.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors in items on the agenda for this meeting.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 April 2019 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - END OF YEAR REPORT

The Committee received a report fulfilling the statutory responsibility to scrutinise the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP), for the year 2018-2019.

Inspector Joe Easterbrook (Surrey Police) provided the Committee with a presentation of the work undertaken by Surrey Police within the Borough of Epsom and Ewell during 2018-19. This included information regarding: performance indicators; projects and operations such as partnership working, domestic abuse, serious organised crime and counter terrorism; local policing priorities; additional resources following a 10% increase in the Surrey Police element of Council Tax.

The following matters were considered:

- a) **Surrey Police local ward meetings.** A Member of the Committee informed the Committee that local Surrey Police ward meetings had not been held in their Borough Council Ward recently. It was noted that Inspector Easterbrook would follow this up with colleagues to make sure that such meetings were held. Local police officer contact details would also be circulated to Councillors.
- b) **Chessington Road JAG.** The Committee considered issues relating to antisocial behaviour in a section of Chessington Road. The Head of Community and Wellbeing and Inspector Easterbrook would consider whether it would be appropriate to arrange a Joint Action Group (JAG) to address these issues.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

- (1) **The Committee noted the work of the CSP for 2018-2019.**

5 INTERNAL AUDIT ASSURANCE REPORT 2018/19 AND FINAL MONITORING REPORT 2018/19

The Committee received a report presenting the last internal audit monitoring report of 2018/19 and the Annual Report 2018/19 prepared by internal auditors RSM.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

- (1) **That the Committee received the Internal Audit Progress Report 2018/19, the Annual Internal Audit Report for the year ended 31 March 2019 and the Review of Performance of Internal Audit by the Chief Finance Officer.**

6 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2018/19

The Committee received a report seeking approval of the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and the arrangements made for its preparation as part of the 2018/19 financial statements.

The following matters were considered:

- a) **VAT and bank reconciliations.** The Committee requested further information regarding the issues in recording Value Added Tax and bank reconciliations detailed in paragraph 6.4 of the AGS. It was noted that following the meeting the Head of Policy, Performance & Governance would circulate further information regarding the nature of the issue, how it was identified and the interim solution implemented.

- b) **Risk Management.** Following a request from a Member of the Committee it was noted that the Council's Risk Management Strategy would be circulated to Members following the meeting.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

That the Committee:

- (1) **Confirmed the adequacy of the arrangements made for preparing the Annual Governance Statement;**
- (2) **Considered and endorsed the 2018/19 AGS prior to it being certified by the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Strategy & Resources Committee;**
- (3) **Approved delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer to make any required amendments prior to its submission with the Statement of Accounts.**

7 ANNUAL REPORT ON RIPA USAGE & POLICY

The Committee received an annual report on activities relating to surveillance by the Council and policies under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

That the Committee:

- (1) **noted the annual report of the Council's use of its RIPA powers;**
- (2) **approved the Council's 'Policy & Guidance on Lawful Surveillance' for the forthcoming year attached at Annex 1 to the report.**

8 ANNUAL REPORT ON USE OF DELEGATED POWERS

The Committee received a report setting out significant decisions taken by Officers in consultation with Committee Chairmen for the period 24 May 2018 to 21 May 2019.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

- (1) **That the Committee noted the significant decisions taken by Officers in consultation with relevant Chairmen recorded using the delegated authority process from 24 May 2018 to 21 May 2019.**

9 CORPORATE PLAN: 2018 TO 2019 YEAR END PERFORMANCE AND TARGET OVERVIEW 2019 TO 2020

The Committee received a report providing the year-end position for Key Priority Targets 2018 to 2019 under the Council's Corporate Plan and the Key Priority Targets for 2019 to 2020.

The following matter was considered:

Electric charging points for vehicles. The Committee noted that a report on options for electric charging points in Council car parks had not been presented to the Environment and Safe Communities Committee during 2018/19. The Environment and Safe Communities Committee had a Key Priority Target for 2019/20 to receive a report on the matter.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

That the Committee:

- (1) Had considered the performance reported at Annexes 1 and 2 of the report and not identified any areas of concern.**
- (2) Noted the Key Priority Targets set for 2019 to 2020 as detailed in Annex 3 of the report.**

10 WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Committee received a report asking it to agree its work programme for 2019/20.

Following consideration, it was resolved:

- (1) That the Committee approved the work programme 2019/20 attached at Annex 1 to the report.**

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.10 pm

COUNCILLOR STEVE BRIDGER (CHAIR)