

Report of the Chairman on the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This report gives an overview of the issues considered at the 19 January 2016 meeting.

1. Presentation on proposals for devolution

- 1.1 The Committee received and noted a presentation from Surrey County Council on the Three Southern Counties (3SC) proposals for devolution.
- 1.2 The Committee noted that the proposals involving the East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey authorities aimed to improve outcomes for local residents and businesses through economic growth, enhanced productivity and a transformation in public service delivery.
- 1.3 The Committee also noted plans for 'double devolution', which could be progressed with or without the 3SC proposals and would be progressed by way of discussions between the 3 Counties and 23 boroughs and districts to decide what powers could be devolved from County level to borough and district level.

2. Corporate Project Management

- 2.1 The Committee noted an update on progress with the Council's priority projects and the Towards a Sustainable Future (TaSF) programme.

3. Performance Review of Contracts

- 3.1 The Committee noted a report giving details of the performance monitoring arrangements for the Council's top spend contracts, including: grounds maintenance; hire of street cleansing and refuse collection vehicles; Leisure Centres; provision of monitoring and maintenance services of CCTV, Knowle Green cleaning contract; management of Staines-upon-Thames market; processing of recyclables and 'meals-on-wheels' supply of vehicles and food.
- 3.2 The Committee noted that the performance monitoring provisions of all the contracts were carefully considered to ensure they were appropriate to the goods /works /services being provided and to ensure contract managers could undertake effective monitoring.

4. Financial Reports

- 4.1 The Committee noted two financial reports setting out the provisional outturn position for both revenue and capital for the six months from April to September 2015.
- 4.2 The Committee also noted the Treasury Management half yearly report for the first six months of 2015 which covered the Council's activities in the borrowing and investment market. The Committee commended the Chief Finance Officer and his team on their treasury management strategy.

5. Committee Work Programme 2015-2016

The Committee noted the work programme for the remainder of the municipal year subject to inclusion of a report on small/medium enterprise and job creation and a report on agile working for a future meeting.

Councillor Alfred Friday

Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

25 February 2016