

Cannock Chase Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Held on Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Cannock
Part 1

Present: Councillors:

Buttery, M.S. (Chairman)
Newbury, J.A.A. (Vice-Chairman)
Arduino, L. Sutton, Mrs. S.M.
Beach, A. Thompson, Mrs. S.L.
McMahon, J.B. Wilson, Mrs. L.J.
Preece, J.P.T.L.

22. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P.A. Fisher, C.D. Smith, and County Councillor P. Hewitt.

23. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members and Party Whip Declarations

No declarations of interests in additions to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members Interests were made.

24. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

25. Statutory Health Scrutiny Items

Update – Staffordshire County Council’s Health and Care and Overview Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Committee and Members were advised that the Cannock Chase Hospital Minor Injuries Unit would be open around June time, however the hours of operation would be restricted until the unit was fully staffed.

The Chairman reported that recent meetings of the County’s Health and Care and Overview Scrutiny Committee could be accessed through their website.

26. Supporting Health and Wellbeing PDP Quarter 3 2021/22 Performance Update

Consideration was given to the Supporting Health and Wellbeing PDP Quarter 3 2021/22 Performance Update (Item 5.1 – 5.25 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

A Member referred to 2.2 Supporting Vulnerable people and asked for further information around the delivery of diversionary activities. The Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles reported that the work associated with this was undertaken by the Partnerships Team. He did however provide some information explaining that an outreach worker was involved with the project. However, he would ask that further information be provided.

(Councillor L. Arduino joined the meeting)

A Member also commented on this project and discussed its progress, referring to the lack of facilities in some parts of the district and other issues that would need to be considered moving forward.

Members noted the Supporting Health and Wellbeing PDP Quarter 3 2021/22 Performance Update.

27. Recommendations from the EnviroCrime Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - EnviroCrime - Review of Council's Approach

Report of the Head of Environment and Health Lifestyles (Item 6.1 - 6.20 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Members commented on the Benchmarking Data and the positive impact the work the Council was undertaking in tackling envirocrime.

A Member commented that Cannock was the only Authority that had used CCTV and bodycams whilst trying to tackle envirocrime. It was highlighted that with Members support and the willingness to allocate resources, CCTV had cost around £2K for each deployment. Whilst there was no one caught during the deployments, it was hoped that this and the erection of signage would act as a deterrent to anyone thinking of committing an envirocrime offence.

Members also discussed areas around voice activated cameras, unregistered waste carriers and the sharing of data with other Local Authorities.

Resolved:

Members noted the report and the following recommendations of the EnviroCrime Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, and agreed that these be submitted to Cabinet for consideration:-

- (a) consideration be given to what other Local Authorities are implementing to tackle the issue of dog fouling;

- (b) review the Council's social media policy to allow more direct and effective engagement by field officers with businesses (legitimate and otherwise) and administrators of online groups;
- (c) to review cost neutral options for engaging alternative providers to undertake issuing of fixed penalties for littering and dog fouling.

28. Recommendations from the Waste and Recycling Task and Finish Group

Report of the Head of Environment and Health Lifestyles (Item 7.1 - 7.28 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Resolved:

Members noted the report and the following recommendations of the Waste & Recycling Task and Finish Group, and agreed that these be submitted to Cabinet for consideration:

- (a) consideration be given to the changes to waste collection for dry recycling starting in May 2022.
- (b) to review the size of refuse containers provided to new properties based on number of residents living in the property.
- (c) to review the Council's process for applying for assisted collections.

29. Effectiveness of Housing Assistance Policy since introduction

Report of the Head of Environment and Health Lifestyles (Item 8.1 - 8.36 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

A Member was keen to know how Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) were advertised, in order that full advantage of the scheme could be taken by applicants. The Environmental Health and Public Protection Manager explained that with the recent appointment of a new staff member, and some departmental changes, there was now a team that would be responsible for dealing with DFGs. The new employee would take on the role of liaising at a more senior level and had already made contact with colleagues at Staffs County Council.

Resolved:

- (A) That the report be noted.
- (B) That the Committee recommends to Cabinet that a review of the Policy be carried out in 2022-23 and that this task be taken forward for inclusion within the Committee's 2022-23 work programme

The meeting closed at 6.36 pm

CHAIRMAN