

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2023 (6PM)

Present:

Councillors: M J Hart (Chairman), S E N Rook (Vice-Chairman), J Aston, B Brookes, S J Chambers, R H Coleman, P Dyke, C Edginton-White, S Miah, T L Onslow, C Rogers and D R Sheppard.

Observers

Observed remotely: Councillors: G W Ballinger, I Hardiman, M Rayner and L Whitehouse.

OS.44 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: V Caulfield, N J Desmond and D Ross.

OS.45 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor B Brookes was a substitute for Councillor D Ross.
Councillor S J Chambers was a substitute for Councillor N Desmond.
Councillor R H Coleman was a substitute for Councillor V Caulfield.

OS.46 Declarations of Interests by Members

No declarations of interest were made.

OS.47 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

OS.48 Health Supplementary Planning Document

The Committee considered a draft of a Cabinet report from the Head of Strategic Growth that presented the draft Wyre Forest District Council (WFDC) Health and Wellbeing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for public consultation.

The Senior Planning Policy Officer presented the report and outlined the key issues. Members were advised that the SPD was required to support the implementation of policies in the Council's adopted Local Plan 2016-2036, specifically policies SP.16 Health and Wellbeing and DM.18 Hot food takeaways.

The Senior Planning Policy Officer explained that the authority was required under

Agenda Item No. 4

the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 to consult on an SPD for a minimum of four weeks; it was proposed that the public consultation be undertaken for a period of six weeks. She added that the online consultation would be promoted via the website and social media. In response to a member question, the Senior Planning Officer confirmed that there would be an option to have face to face consultation meetings if required.

The Senior Planning Policy Officer further explained that following the consultation period Members would be presented with a consultation statement and the final draft of the SPD which will show how the comments had been incorporated into the SPD.

The Committee fully scrutinised the report and appendices. Members highlighted several areas within the SPD where they felt refinement was needed. This included the reference to the location of hot food takeaways as it was felt this was a broad spectrum and there are now many more healthy options available from hot food retailers; clarification of what was meant by a poor-quality job; and where there was a reference to national issues, such as demand for allotment plots, it should have a sharper focus on the context of Wyre Forest.

Agreed: Recommendation to Cabinet:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse the document for consultation, subject to refinement in the areas mentioned and the final proposed policy document coming back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee before going to Cabinet for final adoption.

OS.49 Work Programme

The Committee reviewed and noted the work programme for the remainder of the municipal year.

OS.50 Press Involvement

There were no further items for scrutiny that might require publicity.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 6.38pm.