

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

THURSDAY, 11 APRIL 2024 (6PM)

Present:

Councillors: N Martin (Chairman), F M Oborski MBE (Vice-Chairman), L Carroll, G Connolly, N J Desmond, H E Dyke, N Gale, P Harrison, D Little and D Russell.

Observers

Councillors: B Brookes, P Dyke and I Hardiman.

Observed remotely: Councillor K Henderson

OS.80 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M McDonnell.

OS.81 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor L Carroll was a substitute for Councillor M McDonnell.

OS.82 Declarations of Interests by Members

No declarations of interest were made.

OS.83 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

OS.84 Scrutiny Proposal

The Committee considered a scrutiny proposal form submitted by a member of the Committee, Councillor H Dyke, regarding notifications to residents about changes to Garden Waste collections.

The Chairman advised that the form had been submitted with a view to setting up a review panel to investigate issues with communications sent out by WFDC, and information shown on the website, advising of changes to Garden Waste collections earlier in the year.

Councillor H Dyke presented the form, which set out in detail the scrutiny proposal. She explained that, whilst she was firm advocate of the service provided by the Depot to collect garden waste for residents (a paid for service), as a user of the

service herself she felt that when things go wrong, they need to be investigated and addressed. Councillor Dyke had found the notifications about changes to dates / collection days very confusing. She outlined the key issues and added that she had been contacted by several residents who had also been affected.

A discussion ensued and members agreed that the service itself is very valuable to residents and it is unlikely that the exercise to change the dates / collection days will be required in future years and that, if they do, lessons will be learned by officers involved with the communication issues which arose earlier this year.

Agreed: The Committee DECIDED that it would not support a scrutiny exercise to review communications about revisions to Garden Waste collections.

OS.85 Press Involvement

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

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 6.19pm.

The meeting is available for viewing on the Council's website
<https://wyreforestdc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>