

## COUNCIL MEETING – 15 OCTOBER 2019

### REPORT OF THE PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

30 September 2019

Present: Councillors Graves (Chairman), Aslam, Bone, and Patel

Also present: Miss K Denton (Assistant Director), Mrs G Chapman (Principal Community Support Manager), Mr M Swann (Principal Planning Manager), Mrs C Haybyrne (Technical Services Team Leader) and Miss E McGinlay (Electoral Services Officer)

(Councillors G Lawman and Scarborough attended as observers)

(Mr D Ward (Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire) attended for item 5.)

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**RESOLVED** to note that apologies for absence we received from Councillors Lloyd, Maguire and V Waters.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**RESOLVED** to note that there were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2019 be confirmed and signed.

#### 4. PRESENTATION FROM VICTORIA CENTRE

The annexed circulated report of the director was received to introduce the presentation from the Victoria Centre. Unfortunately, a representative from the Victoria Centre was unable to attend the committee so the presentation was not delivered to members.

**RESOLVED** to note that the Victoria Centre did not attend and will be invited to a future meeting.

#### 5. PRESENTATION FROM VOLUNTARY IMPACT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The annexed circulated report of the director was received to introduce a presentation from Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (VIN). The chairman invited Mr Ward to deliver the presentation.

Mr Ward thanked the chairman for the invitation to committee and delivered his presentation to members. The presentation outlined VIN's work both within the borough and across the county. It highlighted that VIN had two main areas of focus: county-wide infrastructures - such as public health and social care developments with relevant partners, and local infrastructures - such as local charities and community development.

Mr Ward confirmed to members that at the core of their work, VIN were dedicated to ensuring that voluntary sector organisations and work streams remain a key partner in the transformation of local government across Northamptonshire. He also confirmed that VIN would be focussing on the strategic development of the sector and would not be duplicating work completed by other organisations.

Members discussed the report and queried how the success of the project would be measured. It was confirmed that there were several measurements, one of which was a “state of the sector” report produced by VIN which shows how successful funding has been within the voluntary sector.

Members thanked Mr Ward and VIN for their work throughout the borough and shared their wishes for the continuation of the successful service delivery from voluntary sector organisations after the reorganisation of local government.

**RESOLVED** that the presentation be noted.

## **6. PRESENTATION FROM THE PLANNING TEAM - PERFORMANCE**

The annexed circulated report of the assistant director was received to introduce the presentation from the planning team regarding its performance.

Mr Swann and Mrs Haybyrne delivered the presentation to members and highlighted the changes in approach and procedures that had happened across the planning team. They provided facts and figures on the service performance over the last few years and demonstrated the significant effort and improvements that had been achieved. A notable feature of the presentation showed that the council’s planning team were now ranked 14<sup>th</sup> out of 342 authorities by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for delivering timely planning decisions

Members praised and congratulated the planning service for all of their hard work in achieving such positive results and asked for their thanks to be noted and shared with all members of the team.

**RESOLVED** that the presentation be noted.

## **7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN: ANNUAL REVIEW LETTER 2019**

The annexed circulated report of the assistant director was received to advise members on complaints and enquiries made to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman for the year ending 31 March 2019.

The assistant director advised that the report provided no concern and that the council had performed particularly well with no investigations or decisions made by the LG&SCO for the year.

Members acknowledged the positive performance.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

