

Community Focus Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Thursday, 7 March 2013
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes
Committee members:	Councillor Kiran Mulholland (Chairman) Councillor Christine Akeroyd (Vice-Chairman) Councillors David Chedd, Fabian Craig- Wilson, Tony Ford JP, Gail Goodman JP, Nigel Goodrich, Kathleen Harper, Paul Hodgson, Barbara Nash, Edward Nash, Linda Nulty, Dawn Prestwich, John Singleton JP, Vivienne Miller Willder
Other Members:	Councillor Cheryl Little (Portfolio Holder for Social Wellbeing)
Officers:	Christine Miller, Bryan Ward, Lyndsey Lacey
Members of the public:	No members of the public were present

1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and that any other interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee held on 29 November 2012 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute members

The following substitutions were reported under council procedure rule 22.3:

Councillor David Chedd for Councillor Peter Hardy

Councillor Edward Nash for Councillor Susanne Cunningham

Councillor Fabian Craig- Wilson for Councillor Tim Armit

4. Fylde Coast Bathing Waters - Proposed Joint Scrutiny Review

The Chairman, Councillor Kiran Mulholland presented a verbal update on the proposed joint scrutiny review with neighbouring authorities on the Fylde Coast Bathing Waters. He explained that the various authorities were at different stages of the review and as a consequence, there appeared to be very little appetite for a joint scrutiny. He went on to say that an updated report would be presented to the next meeting of the committee.

5. Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

The Chairman, Councillor Kiran Mulholland asked the committee to consider his suggestion for a scrutiny review on Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

Councillor Mulholland suggested that the topic be included within the committee's work plan. He explained that the review would examine circumstances regarding recent concerns relating to the Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. He went on to say that recent reports indicated that the Trust is one of five trusts nationwide to be investigated by the NHS Commissioning Board following two years of higher than expected death rates.

It was further suggested that the review should not replicate any work to be undertaken by the NHS Commissioning Board but seek to understand who reviews the performance of the Trust and why the issues were not identified earlier.

It was felt that the subject was worthy of scrutiny as it is a poor performing service and an area of public concern. In addition, the issue has a wide impact and is believed to be a concern to a wide proportion of councillors and external agencies.

The Committee RESOLVED to include a review on Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust within its work plan.

6. Fylde Community Safety Partnership

Councillor Cheryl Little (Portfolio Holder for Social Wellbeing) and Bryan Ward (Community Safety Manager) presented a report on the Fylde Community Safety Partnership. In doing so, Councillor Little explained that the Council has a statutory responsibility to review or scrutinise the discharge by responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions each year.

In summary, the report provided details on the most recent available statistics for crime and disorder to allow an informed scrutiny of the responsible authorities. It also highlighted the role and make-up of the Fylde Crime and Disorder Partnership and the recent changes brought about by the election of Lancashire's first Police and Crime Commissioner.

Mr Ward further reported on the CCTV arrangements. He explained that the Council had been given 3 weeks' notice by Blackpool Council that it would be discontinuing the monitoring of the CCTV system. He added that this would have an impact on both St Annes and Kirkham. In addition, the Service Level

Agreement was not due to expire until August 2014 and as a consequence, such action could be deemed to be in breach of contract. Mr Ward indicated that he would advise members of the outcome in due course.

A sheet detailing the latest all crime statistics was circulated at the meeting.

Councillor John Singleton enquired about the crimes statistics in particular, whether the details were available on a ward by ward basis. Mr Ward indicated that a breakdown of the statistics could be made available to members on request or at a future meeting of the committee.

Councillor Kathleen Harper asked for further details on the numbers of young and older persons killed or seriously injured in road accidents in Fylde. In particular, she sought further clarification on the areas identified as black spots. In response, Councillor Little highlighted the work currently being undertaken by the Police within the borough on education and enforcement.

In addition to the above, various members enquired about the Community Payback Scheme, the work of the recently established multi agency group to work with 'troubled and vulnerable' families and the role of the PCC. These were addressed by Mr Ward and Councillor Little.

Following detailed discussion it was RESOLVED to note the report and agree to an Annual Report being submitted to the Committee and where appropriate, a six monthly update from the responsible authorities/ partners.

7. Community Projects Fund Review

Christine Miller (Partnerships Manager) presented a report on a review of the Community Projects Fund.

Members were reminded that the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) would formally cease to exist from 31st March 2013. The LSP Executive had agreed that due to the success achieved by the Community Projects Fund over the years, a total of £50,000 would be allocated to the Council to allow the good work to continue for a further two years. Members were advised that this would allow for the continuation of funding to local community groups for 2013-14 and 2014-15 with an annual allocation of £25,000. It was further reported that the fund would in future be administered by an officer of the Council and that an Annual Report would be presented to the Committee each year.

Guidance Notes and the criteria for the Community Projects Fund were set out in the report.

Mrs Miller went on to report on the various local initiatives that had benefited from the Fylde Community Projects Fund over the previous year.

Following detailed discussion it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the report and proffer support for the new way of working.

2. To recommend to the Panel and Cabinet that the Director of Resources be given delegated authority to award the funding.
3. To support the promotion of this fund within the local community and seek input from elected members and parish/town councils on how this should be achieved.
4. To convey the committee's thanks and appreciation to Mrs Miller for her work over the years and their good wishes for a very happy and healthy retirement.

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