

Public Document Pack

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of East Hertfordshire District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Wallfields, Hertford on Wednesday 2nd March, 2016 at 7.00 pm, for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the Agenda below, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

Dated this 23rd day of February 2016

Jeff Hughes
Head of Democratic and
Legal Support Services

Note: Prayers will be said before the meeting commences. Those Members who do not wish to participate will be invited to enter the Chamber at their conclusion

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Announcements

To receive any announcements.

2. Minutes (Pages 7 - 16)

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 February 2016.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' declarations of interest.

4. Petitions

To receive any petitions.

5. Public Questions

To receive any public questions.

6. Members' questions

To receive any Members' questions.

7. Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee: Minutes - 16 February 2016
(Pages 17 - 26)

Chairman: Councillor N Symonds

8. Environment Scrutiny Committee: Minutes - 23 February 2016

Chairman: Councillor J Wyllie (to follow)

9. Human Resources Committee: Minutes - 24 February 2016

Chairman: Councillor C Woodward (to follow)

To consider recommendations on the following matter:

(A) Pay Policy Statement 2016/17

10. Development Management Committee: Minutes - 24 February 2016

Chairman: Councillor D Andrews (to follow)

11. Council Tax 2016/17

To consider a report (to follow) of the Executive Member for Finance and Support Services.

Note – In accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote will be taken on this matter.

12. Review of the Allocation of Seats on Committees

To consider a report (to follow) of the Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services.

13. Motions on Notice

To receive Motions on Notice.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1. A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:
 - must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
 - must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
 - must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
 - if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
 - must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.

2. A DPI is an interest of a Member or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were civil partners) within the descriptions as defined in the Localism Act 2011.

3. The Authority may grant a Member dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable him/her to participate and vote on a matter in which they have a DPI.

4. It is a criminal offence to:

- fail to disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting if it is not on the register;
- fail to notify the Monitoring Officer, within 28 days, of a DPI that is not on the register that a Member disclosed to a meeting;
- participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which a Member has a DPI;
- knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false or misleading in notifying the Monitoring Officer of a DPI or in disclosing such interest to a meeting.

(Note: The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.)

Audio/Visual Recording of meetings

Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using whatever, non-disruptive, methods you think are suitable, which may include social media of any kind, such as tweeting, blogging or Facebook. However, oral reporting or commentary is prohibited. If you have any questions about this please contact Democratic Services (members of the press should contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted. Anyone filming a meeting should focus only on those actively participating and be sensitive to the rights of minors, vulnerable adults and those members of the public who have not consented to being filmed.

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD ON
WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2016, AT 7.00
PM

PRESENT: Councillor P Moore (Chairman).
Councillors D Abbott, A Alder, M Allen,
D Andrews, P Ballam, R Brunton, K Brush,
E Buckmaster, S Bull, M Casey,
Mrs R Cheswright, S Cousins, K Crofton,
G Cutting, B Deering, H Drake, M Freeman,
L Haysey, R Henson, Mrs D Hollebon,
A Jackson, G Jones, J Kaye, G McAndrew,
M McMullen, W Mortimer, D Oldridge,
T Page, M Pope, P Ruffles, S Rutland-
Barsby, C Snowdon, S Stainsby, R Standley,
N Symonds, G Williamson, C Woodward and
J Wyllie.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Ibrahim	- Democratic Services Team Leader
Anthony Roche	- Acting Monitoring Officer
Adele Taylor	- Director of Finance and Support Services
Liz Watts	- Chief Executive

576 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Members, Honorary Aldermen and guests to the meeting and reminded everyone that the meeting was being webcast. She also welcomed Anthony Roche, Deputy Monitoring Officer, to his first meeting.

The Chairman expressed her delight that three special residents of East Herts, who were honoured by the Queen in

the New Year's Honours list for 2016, were in attendance. She introduced Michael Baker QC, Anne Forbes and Marion Little.

Michael Baker QC, a Standon resident, had been awarded a CBE for services to the administration of justice and to the community in Hertfordshire. He had been the resident judge at St Albans Crown Court for 10 years and oversaw the 2002 inquest into the Potters Bar train crash. For the last nine years, he had led the Choices and Consequences scheme, working alongside the police and parole service, giving prolific drug offenders a chance to turn their lives around by staying out of prison and conquering their addiction.

Ann Forbes, who lived in Bishop's Stortford, had received an MBE for services to education in the United Kingdom and Uganda. As the inspirational assistant head teacher at the Herts and Essex High School, and previously its head of science, she had benefitted her students with her dynamic teaching and her constant questioning of her subject. Twelve years ago, she had established a partnership with Eden High School in Uganda, which had since grown in a strong and flourishing friendship benefitting the pupils and teachers of both schools.

Marion Little, a resident of Ware, had been awarded an OBE for political service. She was a long-serving Conservative party organiser, based at head office, and had developed a reputation as a campaign specialist. Since joining Conservative Party HQ in 1984 as an agent for the Hertfordshire area, she had taken on increasing responsibilities with her peers describing her as a fantastic colleague who was absolutely dedicated to her job.

The Chairman invited each award recipient to come forward and receive a certificate in recognition of their achievements.

Finally, the Chairman updated Members on her recent engagements. She looked forward to the semi-final stage of the "East Herts Got Talent" event that was taking place the next weekend. She also advised that she would be taking part in a Fire and Ice fundraising event in aid of Isabel

Hospice in July 2016. The Chairman concluded by reminding Members of the Civic Dinner on 19 March 2016.

577 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 January 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

578 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Question 1

Councillor N Symonds asked the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing if he could provide reassurance that registered social landlords were giving priority to turning round their voids in the shortest possible times, as it was the most vulnerable residents who were suffering.

In reply, the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing shared these concerns and referred to the anxieties caused specifically to those residents awaiting a property, as well as generally, with the perception that a property might remain empty for longer than necessary.

The Executive Member commented on the need to challenge the housing associations on their repairs performance to ensure this did not adversely affect void turnaround times. He understood that responses to tenants and Members' queries were not always satisfactory and believed that there should be a clear process for dealing with these to ensure a resolution in a reasonable timeframe.

The Executive Member referred to the partnership arrangements between the Council and the housing associations at various levels and also spoke of the need to challenge them on repairs and voids at all times to improve their services.

579 EXECUTIVE REPORT - 2 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Executive

meeting held on 2 February 2016 be received.

(see also Minutes 580 – 582)

580 BUDGET REPORT AND MTFP 2016/17 – 2019/20

The Executive Member for Finance and Support Services presented the Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) proposals for 2106/17 – 2019/20. He referred to the national situation and the difficulties in planning for future years, given the backdrop of reduced funding for local government, phased withdrawal of Revenue Support Grant and uncertainties over the New Homes Bonus and Business Rates retention.

The Executive Member reminded Council of the new approach to producing integrated strategic and financial planning to ensure that resources were best targeted at the Council's priorities. He spoke of the need for the Council to explore commercial opportunities that could open up new sources of income as well as increase investment income. He reminded Members of the purchase of the Old River Lane site and the returns this had already achieved.

The Executive Member highlighted some of the achievements of the past year and looked forward to funding projects that would help deliver the Council's priorities in the next year. These included using New Homes Bonus funds to support public health projects, subsidising free car parking in Buntingford and Sawbridgeworth and supporting towns and parishes in local projects.

The Executive Member detailed the use of Reserves and the Capital Programme to support a range of projects across a number of priorities. He drew attention to the Council Tax and the proposal that this would be frozen, which would be the sixth year in which it had been either frozen or reduced. However, this would not be sustainable in the long term and the MTFP included a modest 1% increase from 2017/18 onwards. The Executive Member cautioned Members of the continuing challenges ahead and the need to identify further efficiencies.

Since the Executive meeting of 2 February, the Government had issued the final settlement and an additional briefing on this had been detailed in the supplementary agenda papers. The Executive Member commented that this had resulted in transitional funding of £120k in each of the next two years. As a result, he proposed an additional recommendation that a Transition Funding Reserve be established for using these funds in 2018/19.

Finally, the Executive Member concluded by stating that the Council would yet again be proposing a balanced budget that would deliver improved services to all who lived and worked in East Herts. He thanked Officers across all services for their continued hard work and support.

In accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was taken on the budget proposals now detailed, the result being:

FOR

Councillors D Abbott, A Alder, M Allen, D Andrews, P Ballam, R Brunton, K Brush, E Buckmaster, S Bull, M Casey, R Cheswright, S Cousins, K Crofton, G Cutting, B Deering, H Drake, M Freeman, L Haysey, R Henson, D Hollebon, A Jackson, G Jones, J Kaye, G McAndrew, M McMullen, P Moore, W Mortimer, D Oldridge, T Page, M Pope, P Ruffles, S Rutland-Barsby, C Snowdon, S Stainsby, R Standley, N Symonds, G Williamson, C Woodward, J Wyllie.

AGAINST

None

ABSTENTIONS:

None

For: 39

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Council approved the recommendations as now detailed.

RESOLVED – that (A) the comments of the joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees be received;

(B) the 2015/16 Forecast Outturn as set out in Section 4 of the report submitted, including the proposed contributions to and from Reserves, be approved;

(C) the forecast 2015/16 revenue underspend transfer to the Transformation Reserve, as now detailed at paragraph 4.11 of the report submitted, be approved;

(D) the 2016/17 Revenue Budget, including:

- Budget Growth set out in Section 6, paragraph 6.2 of the report submitted;
- Budget Savings set out in Section 6, paragraph 6.3 of the report submitted;
- Contingency budget set in Section 8, paragraph 8.3 of the report submitted;
- use of Earmarked Reserves, as set out in section 9 of the report submitted;
- consideration of the advice from the Director of Finance & Support Services on the levels of reserves and robustness of the forecasts in setting the budget as required by Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 (section 15);

be approved;

(E) the proposed 2016/17 Schedule of Charges, as detailed at section 7 of the report submitted, be approved;

(F) the East Herts Council element of the Council Tax Demand, as now detailed in paragraph 11.3 of the report submitted, be approved;

(G) the Capital Programme for the period 2015/16 (Revised) to 2019/20, the funding of the programme

and the consequential revenue budget implications as set out in section 12 of the report submitted, be approved;

(H) the Medium Term Financial Plan covering 2015/16 (Revised) to 2019/20 as set out in section 13 of the report submitted, be approved;

(I) the Reserves Policy as set out in Section 14 of the report submitted, be approved; and

(J) an additional MTFP Transition Funding Reserve is created and the Transition Grant funding received in 2016/17 and 2017/18 is held in this reserve to be used in 2018/19 to reduce the amount of one-off savings required.

(see also Minute 579)

581 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2016/17

RESOLVED – that (A) the comments of the joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees and the Audit Committee be received;

(B) the Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy, as now submitted, be approved;

(C) the Prudential Indicators, as now submitted, be approved; and

(D) the counterparty and approved countries listing , as now submitted, be approved.

(see also Minute 579)

582 GREAT AMWELL CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

RESOLVED – that (A) the responses to the public consultation be noted and the Officer responses and

proposed changes to the Great Amwell Conservation Area Appraisal be supported;

(B) authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the Executive Member for Development Management and Council Support, to make any further minor and consequential changes to the Appraisal which may be necessary; and

(C) the Great Amwell Conservation Area Appraisal be adopted.

(see also Minute 579)

583 DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: MINUTES - 3 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Development Management Committee meeting held on 3 February 2016, be received.

584 JOINT MEETING OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES: MINUTES - 9 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees held on 9 February 2016, be received.

(see also Minute 585)

585 CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN 2016/17 - 2019/20

RESOLVED – that (A) the report be received; and

(B) the draft 2016/17 – 2019/20 Corporate Strategic Plan, as now submitted, be approved.

(see also Minute 584)

586 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME - REPORT OF THE
INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Council considered a report containing the recommendations of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) following its review of Members Allowances.

The IRP had proposed retaining the allowance levels at existing levels, except for the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee being increased from 0.5 to 0.75. In response to a Member's question, the Chief Executive confirmed that the IRP had proposed that this be backdated to 21 May 2015.

Council also noted that there were now three vacancies on the Panel and agreed that Officers should now progress filling all three vacancies in time for the commencement of the next review in Autumn 2016.

Council approved the recommendations as now detailed.

RESOLVED – that (A) the allowance levels within the 2015/16 scheme be retained for 2016/17 (1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017) save that:

- (1) the multiplier to obtain the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee be increased from 0.5 to 0.75 and that the revised multiplier be applied from the day after the Annual Council meeting in 2015 (i.e. 21 May), and
- (2) the subsistence rates be as follows:

Breakfast	Before 7am	7.21
Lunch	Between noon and 2.30 pm	9.95
Tea	Between 2.30 pm and 7pm	3.94
Evening Meal*	After 7pm	12.33

*Note: Evening meal allowance cannot be claimed with tea allowance.

(B) Officers be authorised to recruit and appoint three people to fill the vacancies on the Authority’s Independent Remuneration Panel before the commencement of its work to review and make recommendations on Members’ Allowances for 2017/18.

587 MOTION OF CENSURE

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report advising that the Standards Sub-Committee, at its hearing meeting held on 28 January 2016, had considered a report by the Investigating Officer which had concluded that Councillor J Cartwright had breached the Authority’s Code of Conduct in relation to the matters identified. The Standards Sub-Committee had decided that the Member had failed to comply with the Code and decided that formal censure by motion was appropriate.

Councillor C Woodward moved, and Councillor B Deering seconded, the motion of censure.

Council approved the censure motion as now detailed.

RESOLVED - that Councillor James Cartwright be censured for his conduct in respect of the matter detailed by the Investigating Officer in his report to the Standards Sub-Committee meeting of 28 January 2016.

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm

Chairman
Date

HWB

HWB

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD ON
TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016, AT 7.00
PM

PRESENT: Councillor N Symonds (Chairman)
Councillors D Abbott, A Alder, S Cousins,
H Drake, Mrs D Hollebon, J Kaye and
M McMullen

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors M Allen, E Buckmaster and
P Ruffles

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Simon Barfoot	- Environmental Health Promotion Officer
Lorraine Blackburn	- Democratic Services Officer
Claire Pullen	- Engagement and Partnerships Officer (Grants)
Brian Simmonds	- Head of Community Safety and Health Services
Adele Taylor	- Director of Finance and Support Services
Paul Thomas-Jones	- Environmental Health Manager - Commercial
Sheila Winterburn	- Environmental Health Manager - Housing

565 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors P Moore and R Standley.

566 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

567 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Rachel Elsom (Public Health for England) who was observing the meeting.

The Chairman commented that Jim McManus (HCC, Director of Public Health) was due to attend the meeting but had to subsequently submit his apologies.

568 STATEMENT ON LICENSING POLICY: DRAFT

The Head of Community Safety and Health Services submitted a report updating Members on the progress of promoting health and wellbeing within the Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Head of Community Safety and Health Services provided a summary of the report. He stated that Jim McManus, Director of Public Health at Hertfordshire County Council, had contributed to the development of the Draft Licensing Policy. He had also facilitated obtaining Counsel's Opinion which had identified a gap in the policy in terms of the need to provide data on specific licenced premises in the District and how this could impact on public health when considering licensing applications.

In response to a query from Councillor A Alder, the Head of Community Safety and Health Services explained that Officers had attempted to identify "hot spots" and sources of concern possibly by "mystery shopping" and overlay the information obtained onto that provided by the County Council in order to establish public health "hot spots", e.g. whether a

particular area suffered high levels of abuse, or other serious health issues.

In response to a query from Councillor S Cousins regarding crime in general, the Head of Community Safety and Health Services said that, as a District, East Herts had low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. He referred to his concerns regarding issues around individuals “pre-loading” before they went out and the need to gain further information and ensure that the supply, possibly by off licences, was controlled.

The Chairman commented that frequently, alcohol and cocaine were used together. The Head of Community Safety and Health Services explained that there was a link between alcohol and cocaine and aspirational social strata and commented on the ongoing and good relationship the Council had working with the Police to take action where appropriate.

The Chairman asked Members whether they would support a letter of thanks being sent to Inspector Gerry McDonald, referring to the continuing good working relationship East Herts had with the Police and that the Members appreciated being able to sit on the Divisional Management Meeting (DMM) meetings. This was supported.

The Committee noted the report and confirmed their support for the approach as detailed.

RESOLVED – that (A) in respect of Licensing issues, the approach as now detailed, be supported; and

(B) the Head of Community Safety and Health Services write a letter of thanks to Inspector Gerry McDonald referring to the continuing good working relationship East Herts had with the Police and that Members appreciated being able to sit on DMM meetings.

569 DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS PROGRAMME - UPDATE

Following a request from Members, the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing submitted a report updating Members on the Disabled Facilities Grants programme and the results

of a countywide review of housing adaptations services, eligibility and process. The Environmental Health Manager - Residential, provided a summary of the report including statistics on grants approved in 2014/15 and in the year to date.

In response to a query regarding promotional literature, the Environmental Health Manager – Residential said that she would arrange for posters to be sent to Members for public display.

Councillor A Alder referred to people in private rented accommodation who might apply for a grant. The Environmental Health Manager – Residential explained that the scheme was open to private rented tenants and that the Council had given two such grants in the past year.

Councillor J Kaye referred to means testing, specifically in relation to war veterans. The Environmental Health Manager – Residential explained the special arrangements enshrined in legislation for these individuals and explained generally, how the referral process worked. The Chairman commented that war veterans could also contact the British Legion for help.

The Chairman expressed concern that the referral rate was falling and hoped that the Council could be more proactive. The Environmental Health Manager – Residential explained that there was a waiting list for Occupational Therapist (OT) referrals at the moment.

Members also expressed their concern about falling levels of referrals and supported a suggestion that Officers should investigate this and to see what could be done to establish a closer working relationship with OTs and to seek a swifter referral process. The Chairman stated that if Members knew of any families needing help that they should contact the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing.

The Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing agreed that a closer connection with OTs would be beneficial to a speedier process.

The Committee supported the recommendation as now

detailed and that Officers write to appropriate Officers at Hertfordshire County Council expressing concern about the falling levels of referrals and seeking a way forward to work closer with OTs, resulting in a swifter referral process.

RESOLVED – that (A) flyers be distributed to Members to promote Disabled Facilities Grants to residents;

(B) the approach being taken by the ongoing Herts review of Adaptations to support independent living be supported, in principle; and

(C) Officers write to appropriate Senior Officers at Hertfordshire County Council expressing Members' concerns about the falling levels of referrals and seeking a way forward to work closer with Occupational Therapists to enable a swifter referral process.

570 UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING FUND (YEAR 1)

The Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing submitted a report updating Members on the progress of the East Herts Community Health and Wellbeing Fund 2015 and its supported projects. He also provided feedback on the scoping and research undertaken for potential projects with match funding support. The Environmental Health Promotion Officer provided a summary of the report.

Members provided feedback on projects they had visited throughout the District which had been supported by Council funding. The Environmental Health Promotion Officer assured Members that an evaluation exercise and feedback on the projects would be reported back to Members.

Members supported a suggestion that local GPs and Patient Participation Groups be contacted in order to promote the projects and as a means of promoting good health.

The Committee received the progress made on the Health and Wellbeing Community Fund Projects.

RESOLVED – that (A) the progress made on the

Health and wellbeing Community Fund Projected be received; and

(B) GPs and Patient Participation Groups be contacted in terms of promoting the projects as a means of promoting good health.

571 APPROVAL OF DRAFT EAST HERTS HEALTH AND WELLBEING ACTION PLAN 2016/17

The Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing submitted a report seeking approval of the work plan for 2016/17 as detailed within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018. The Environmental Health Promotion Officer provided a summary of the report.

The Chairman referred to self-harm and the use by some individuals, of poisoning to bring about harm. The Environmental Health Promotion Officer stated that he was not aware of this aspect particularly, however, a project started by East Herts last year was continuing and that self-harm was a subject that other Districts and Hertfordshire County Council were working on together.

The issue of isolation, both rural and urban, in East Herts was discussed. The Environmental Health Promotion Officer advised that a report was being progressed to consider this issue and the Scrutiny Officer advised that this was on the Committee's forward plan for November 2016.

Councillor D Abbott stated that men could also be victims of domestic abuse and referred to the very good work done by the Crucial Crew Team.

The Committee agreed the proposed workplan for 2016/17 as detailed within the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

RESOLVED – that the proposed workplan for 2016/17 as detailed within the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy, be agreed.

572 HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY - WORK
PROGRAMME 2016/17

The Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee submitted a report reviewing the Committee's work programme for 2015/16 and which considered the work programme for 2016/17. The Scrutiny Officer asked Members to complete the evaluation questionnaire which she would distribute at the end of the meeting reviewing past work and the outcomes achieved.

Councillor Mrs D Hollebon suggested that mental health charities such as MIND, should be a topic of further scrutiny and that locality lead GPs from the District and from the Clinical Commissioning Groups be invited to attend a future meeting to consider this and the NHS's progress on its strategic shift to prevention.

The Chairman commented on how churches were usually central in village life and how these could be developed to help combat rural isolation by the introduction of more activities. Councillor A Alder stated that the issue of working as a carer for an individual with dementia could also be lonely.

Councillor Mrs D Hollebon suggested that Carers in Herts should be approached for more relevant data.

Councillors J Kaye and S Cousins sought assurances that the District Plan had public health at its core and that East Herts remained a good place to live and work.

Members referred to devolution and the importance of continued partnership working and particularly with community groups.

The Scrutiny Officer stated that the District Plan would be reported to Members in September 2016 and a report on the evidence gathered in relation to the implications of isolation would be reported back to Members in November 2016. She stated that if at that time, Members decided they wanted to look at this in more detail, then faith groups could be invited to give evidence. The Scrutiny Officer explained that an invitation to the Clinical Commission Groups would be

incorporated into the work programme where appropriate.

The Committee approved the report, as now amended.

RESOLVED – that the work programme, as now amended, be agreed.

573 HCC HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: MINUTES: 16
DECEMBER 2015

The Minutes of Hertfordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny meeting of 16 December 2015 were submitted for information.

The Committee noted the Minutes.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes be noted.

574 HEALTH AND WELLBEING OFFICERS' GROUP - MINUTES:
20 JANUARY 2016

The Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Officers' Group held on 20 January 2016 were submitted for information. The Scrutiny Officer suggested that as health and wellbeing was now a full scrutiny committee, these Minutes could be sent electronically as and when necessary, rather than include them on future agendas. This was supported.

The Committee noted the Minutes.

RESOLVED – that (A) the Minutes be noted; and

(B) future Minutes of this group be circulated electronically.

575 AGEING WELL STEERING GROUP - MINUTES: 26
JANUARY 2016

The Minutes of the Ageing Well Steering Group held on 26 January 2016 were submitted for information. The Scrutiny Officer suggested that as health and wellbeing was now a full scrutiny committee that these Minutes could be sent electronically as and when necessary, rather than include them on future agendas. This was supported.

The Committee noted the Minutes.

RESOLVED – that (A) the Minutes be noted; and

(B) future Minutes of this group be circulated electronically.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chairman
Date

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