

TOURISM, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & LEISURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 12 October 2021

Present: Councillor H Cameron (Chair)

Councillors B Kenny J Johnson
KJ Williams P Gilchrist
G Wood S Williams
M Booth P Cleary
A Brame J Bird (In place of C
Spriggs)

30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed attendees and viewers to the meeting and reminded everyone that the meeting was webcast and retained on the Council's website for two years.

31 APOLOGIES

Councillor Christine Spriggs gave apologies for absence.

The Chair led the Committee as they observed a minute's silence to the memory of Alderman Gerry Ellis and Councillor Andy Corkhill who had both passed away recently.

32 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest. No interests were declared.

33 MINUTES

**Resolved –
That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 Sept 2021 be approved as an accurate record.**

34 PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS

There were no questions, statements or petitions from the public or Members.

LIVERPOOL AND WIRRAL CORONER AREA ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Coroner presented his report. A Coroner was an independent judicial office holder, appointed by the local authority. They investigated deaths reported to them if it appeared that: the death was violent or unnatural; the cause of death was unknown; or the person died in prison, police custody or another type of state detention. The report was the full annual report of the Liverpool and Wirral Coroner Area for the period of 2020.

The Coroner thanked the Council for the additional support and employing additional administrators enabling the court to work every day during the pandemic. There had been 300 additional post-mortems requested throughout the pandemic. There was an 11-week delay in dealing with some cases, with 8 weeks being a target. Mr Rebello emphasised that there would be more efficiencies if all authorities throughout the Liverpool City Region merged services but this had not happened.

Members questioned The Coroner about his report which established:

- Limiting factors for the work included budget and staffing
- Some of the authorities in Merseyside did not have facilities such as general hospitals so cases from those areas were dealt with and paid for by those that had, which were Liverpool City and Wirral
- There was a Health and Care bill before Parliament to make Health Trusts appoint medical examiners who scrutinise death certificates that do not go to the Coroner.

Councillor Phil Gilchrist proposed that the Council Leader should be invited to look at new structures with other Merseyside local authority leaders so as to assess pressures within the structure and assist some of the resolutions which might be required.

Councillor Helen Cameron moved the proposal, seconded by Councillor Allan Brame.

Resolved – That

- (1) the Liverpool and Wirral Coroner's annual report be noted.**
- (2) the Council Leader be invited, with other Merseyside local authority leaders, to assess pressures within the existing death examination structure and assist in any resolutions which might be required.**

PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTION ORDER: BIRKENHEAD AND SEACOMBE

The Director of Neighbourhoods presented the report which aimed to restrict access to specified alleyways to restrict crime. A member of the neighbourhoods team answered questions. Funds had been awarded from the Home Office for the 'Safer Streets 2 Central Birkenhead and Seacombe'

initiative, which was to be delivered between July 2021 and March 2022, and was aiming to reduce burglary and achieve benefits for communities by reducing anti-social behaviour.

Councillors praised the initiative and the benefits that would result and emphasised that some alleyways had been turned into assets for the community once cleared and cleaned. It was noted that there was a weighting in the tendering process for procurement of the gates locally.

Resolved –

That the making of a Public Spaces Protection Order in the ‘Birkenhead and Seacombe Safer Streets 2’ area as substantially set out in Appendix 1 of this report, be approved for a period of 3 years.

37 **THE WIRRAL PLAN 2021-2026 DRAFT DELIVERY PLANS**

The Director of Neighbourhoods presented the report of the Chief Executive which presented The Wirral Plan 2021-26 Draft Delivery Plans. The Plans had been approved at Council on 6 September 2021, together with the recommendation that engagement and discussion with relevant Committees would take place to further shape the underpinning delivery plans and work programmes required to implement the Wirral Plan. Officers were to provide reports in future about the delivery on the plans.

Members discussed the cross cutting-themes including domestic abuse and road safety. They also discussed community cohesion and the links with the voluntary sector as it was not present in the Plan, so had no actions or timescale, but it was in the Committee’s terms of reference.

Councillor Helen Cameron proposed an additional recommendation that officers look at how they can add into the delivery plan for next 5 years a clear section around voluntary and faith sector.

Resolved –

- (1) That the draft Delivery Plans, as they relate to Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee set out in Appendix 1 to this report be noted.**
- (2) officers look at how they can add into delivery plan for next 5 years a clear section around the voluntary sector.**

38 **WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee was responsible for proposing and delivering an annual committee work programme. This work programme was to align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the key decisions which are within the remit of the Committee.

Resolved -

That the work programme (as set out in the report) for the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year be agreed.

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**TOURISM, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & LEISURE COMMITTEE
PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Assistant Director of Leisure, Libraries and Customer Engagement presented the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which provided performance information in relation the group of Neighbourhood Services that reported to the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee. Members requests had been incorporated into the performance report, which would evolve as more services recommenced as Covid-19 restrictions were lifted.

Members suggested annotating the timeline to show when lockdown measures were in place, showing the capacity of venues so performance could be judged, and including metrics on gender and people's travel methods.

Resolved - the content of the Performance Report be noted.