BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

COORDINATING O&S COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING

1000 hours on Friday 26th January 2024, Committee Rooms 3 and 4,

Council House, Victoria Square, B1 1BB

Minutes

Present:

Councillor Sir Albert Bore (Chair)

Councillors: Akhlaq Ahmed, Deirdre Alden, Shabrana Hussain, Mohammed Idrees, Kerry Jenkins, Ewan Mackey, Lee Marsham and Alex Yip.

Also Present:

Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services
Baseema Begum, Scrutiny Officer

1. **NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

    The Chair advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's Public-I microsite (please click this link) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

2. **APOLOGIES**

    Apologies were received from Councillors Mick Brown and Morriam Jan.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

    None.

4. **MINUTES – 15 December 2023**

    RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. **CO-ORDINATING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER**

Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services confirmed that the outstanding action in relation to a briefing note on OFLOG had been received and circulated.

RESOLVED: That the Co-ordinating OSC action tracker be noted.

6. **COMMISSIONER'S REVIEW AND COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA**

   RESOLVED: It was noted that no comments had been received.

7. **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP: GOVERNANCE STABILISATION**

   The Chair, Cllr Sir Albert Bore outlined that the purpose of the Task and Finish Group was essentially to monitor what the Council was doing in implementing its Governance Stabilisation Plan. It was explained that the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) was monitoring the progress being made through a series of checkpoints and would be looking at overall progress being made. The role of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group would be to monitor, at regular intervals, delivery of the immediate actions required to support short-term stabilisation of governance across the Council.

   It was confirmed that following legal advice the work being considered as part of the Task and Finish Group could be held in mainstream committee meetings. Members were in support of this to ensure greater openness and transparency on the proviso that at times there could be a need to hold private meetings if exempt information needed to be discussed.

   In order to undertake the required monitoring, it was suggested that the Committee could sync its meetings, so they took place after CLT had meet. This would allow Members to receive the same papers and to check independently where progress was, or was not, being made.

   During the discussion, it was confirmed that there would be an opportunity for the Chair to discuss these arrangements further, with the Council's Monitoring Officer, ahead of the agenda for the next meeting being published.

   RESOLVED: -
   - That the report be noted.

- That the Terms of Reference, set out in Appendix 1 to the report presented, be agreed.
- That the Chair, and officers, look at the timetable of Committee meetings to ensure these took place shortly after relevant CLT meetings.

8. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

There were no requests for Call In for Co-ordinating OSC.

9. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS
None.

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for 23rd February 2024. However, it was highlighted that this was subject to change.

RESOLVED: That any future meetings, to consider the progress being made in relation to supporting the short-term stabilisation of governance across the Council, be held on a Friday (where possible) and occur after CLT had met.

11. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRS AND OFFICERS

RESOLVED: -

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, with the relevant Chief Officer, be authorised to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 10:13 hours.