

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOODS O&S COMMITTEE –  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**1400 hours on Tuesday 13 November 2018, Committee Room 6**

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**Present:**

Councillor Penny Holbrook (Chair)

Councillors Akhlaq Ahmed, Gurdial Singh Atwal, Deirdre Alden, Marje Bridle, Eddie Freeman, Roger Harmer and Mahmood Hussain

**Also Present:**

Councillor Tristan Chatfield, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities

Councillor Majid Mahmood, Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Waste and Recycling

Lesley Ariss, Head of Business Improvement and Support

Suwinder Bains, Cohesion and Partnerships Manager

Darren Share, Acting Service Director, Waste Management

Jonathan Tew, Assistant Chief Executive

Jayne Power, Scrutiny Officer, Scrutiny Office

Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services

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**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chairman advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.civico.net/birmingham](http://www.civico.net/birmingham)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

**2. APOLOGIES**

None.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.

**4. ACTION NOTES**

(See document no 1)

The following points were raised:

- The Chair advised members of the Committee that a piece of work on Universal Credit is going to be undertaken by the Co-ordinating O&S Committee.
- With regard to the amount of social housing there will be at the Perry Barr Village, Councillor Deirdre Alden advised the Committee that her understanding is the figure is exactly what the Council asked for.

The notes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 were agreed.

## **5. ACTION TRACKER**

(See document no 2)

Councillor Bridle referred to the delay to the Localisation White Paper and her understanding that this would be going to Co-ordinating O&S Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Once that has been agreed with the Chair of Co-ordinating members of this committee will be notified.

The action tracker was noted.

## **6. COMMUNITY COHESION STRATEGY WHITE PAPER**

(See document no 3)

Councillor Tristan Chatfield, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities, Jonathan Tew, Assistant Chief Executive and Suwinder Bains, Cohesion and Partnerships Manager attended for this item.

The following were among the main points raised:

- The consultation had reached into parts of the city where those conversations with the Council had not taken place before and there has been an acknowledgement of the importance of partnership working, particularly where there are gaps, for example around gender equality, deprivation and the disconnection between wealthy and less wealthy communities ;
- Councillor Chatfield wished to place on record his thanks to Councillors Roger Harmer and Ewan Mackey for their involvement;
- There will be some further amendments made to the strategy before it goes to full Council in December and it was stressed that this is a live document, which will change as our city changes;
- In response to comments about the need for an action plan, Members were advised that the summit referred to in the report, which will be convened in the New Year, will bring out commitments and themes and specific bits of work;
- The Chair suggested that it would be useful for a member of this committee to be invited to attend the summit as an observer and for a further report to be brought back 6 months on from the summit.

**RESOLVED:-**

- It was agreed that the Chair would be invited to the summit.
- Further report back to Committee to be programmed for 6 months after the summit has been held.

**7. PERFORMANCE REPORTING**

(See document no 4)

Lesley Ariss, Head of Business Improvement and Support, and Darren Share, Acting Service Director, Waste Management, attended for this item.

The following were among the main points raised:

- The Chair informed Committee that the focus of this session would be on waste management;
- Lesley Ariss took Members through the response which had been provided to the issues which had been raised at the September meeting;
- Members raised concerns with regard to the on-going problems around missed collections and were advised that the new operating model is in the process of bedding in;
- A period of 4 months had been identified during which time additional resources would help pick up any outstanding work;
- The Cabinet Member stressed the importance of reporting missed collections through the appropriate channels so that data can be captured, rather than Councillors contacting depots direct;
- Once the service has settled, elected members will be emailed on a daily basis to let them know when roads have been missed and the plans for picking up the following day;
- There is a need to look at performance monitoring going forward and how the data is captured from reports of missed collections versus the depot intelligence which informs where roads have been missed and also factoring in where bins have not been presented;
- Members asked about the arrangements for collections over the Christmas period and were told that previously garden crews used to step down, but there are now 14 crews who will be working to clear excess Christmas waste and during that period side waste is also accepted;
- In response to a question about capital investment in lorries, the Cabinet Member informed members that a vehicle strategy report would be going to Cabinet and he would be happy to provide a private briefing on this;
- The Chair requested information on the gender split across management and frontline positions and officers undertook to check the figures and circulate to Members;
- Councillor Alden put on record her thanks to the Cabinet Member.

**RESOLVED:-**

- Private briefing on Fleet Replacement Strategy report to be arranged;

- Figures for gender split across management and frontline positions to be provided;
- Regular performance reporting to be scheduled into the work programme.

## **8. CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING**

(See document no 5)

Councillor Majid Mahmood, Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Waste and Recycling, presented his priorities report.

The following were among the main points raised:

- Councillor Mahmood expressed his thanks to officers for their work;
- Reference was made to the hard work of community groups who undertake litter picks and the intention to approach the Lord Mayor's Parlour to explore the possibility of holding some sort of celebratory event for them;
- A lot of work is being done with the Jericho Foundation around re-use centres and looking at broadening these;
- In terms of trade waste, Members were told that inspections are carried out to see if trade waste contracts are in place, however this takes a lot of resources and Members were encouraged to provide details of any businesses they are aware of who do not have trade waste contracts;
- The number of street cleaning staff and how these were split across wards was queried and Members were advised that they are not divided by the number of wards but there were district teams;
- In response to a question about the use of the Land Audit Management System (which follows on from Environmental Quality Assessment reports) and the Cabinet Member advised that a session will be held for all elected members to understand how the system operates and see what value we can elicit from it once it comes into operation.

### **RESOLVED:-**

- The report was noted.

## **9. WORK PROGRAMME**

(See document No 6)

The work programme was discussed and the following points were raised:

- The December agenda will include an update on the Homelessness Reduction Act, with a list of review points to take forward from the Rough Sleeping & Prevention inquiry and the Budget Consultation 2019+;
- The second PRS session will be held in January, and Committee will also receive an update on the CT scanner.

The work programme was noted.

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

None.

**11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Noted.

**13. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Agreed.

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The meeting ended at 1610 hours.